

# SPOKE

Vol 27, No. 3

Conestoga College, Kitchener, Ontario

January 23, 1995

## Inside...

### Perspective



Sabina Kampf, DSA president, says her executive fulfilled the association's mission statement this school year — increased student involvement.

Her executive is profiled along with mature students requesting a voice in student government.

See page 11

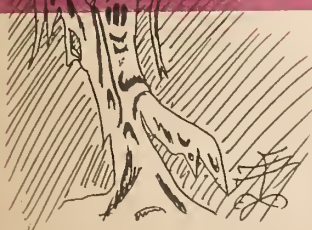
### Education



Continuing education adds more courses to the winter semester, from astrology to bass fishing. Personal finance and investment courses have also been added because of recommendations by teachers and students.

See page 13

### Paranormal



A supplement dealing with the weird and wonderful is submitted for approval from the inaugural J1A class in the journalism program.

See page 14

## Tuition fees could triple by 1997

By Kerry Masche

Kevin Mullan, Conestoga's vice president of finance and administrative operations, says Human Resources Minister Lloyd Axworthy's reforms may result in long-term problems for post-secondary institutions.

Mullan said that he understands something needs to be done about the federal debt and deficit, however, "you can keep cutting the costs, but you can't necessarily keep the quality of education."

Mullan said Canadian educational facilities receive about \$2.6 billion from the federal government for funding. He said of that amount, Ontario receives \$900 million.

According to Mullan, the province's colleges receive one-third (\$300 million), while universities collect the rest.

He said the provincial government receives the transfer payments which are added to money collected from Ontario taxpayers for post secondary education.

Ontario colleges operate under an \$800 million grant from the provincial government, meaning taxpayers must contribute \$500 million to supplement the transfer payments.

Mullan said if Axworthy decides to cut the province's transfer payments, \$300 million will have to be collected somewhere else for colleges and \$600 million for universities. "That's where tuition fees come in," he said.

According to Mullan, college and university tuition fees could be tripled by 1997 if Axworthy's reforms are passed.

He said this could mean "the only people who would be eligible for a post secondary education would be those who qualify to collect student

loans."

He said even though the government has promised to increase the amount a student would be eligible to receive, it would only result in a higher debt to be paid back later.

Mullan also said increased tuition would likely result in a decrease in registration numbers, which could force some institutions to close or cut some of their more expensive programs such as engineering and health care. "It is unlikely that these programs would be reinstated even if registration numbers eventually increased," he said.

Mullan added that this could have a major economical impact as well.

Conestoga's registrar Betty Martin said although cutting transfer payments may result in some difficult cuts and losses for post secondary institution, payback of loans may be based on a student's income after graduation.

She said, "I think there is some value to the loan contingent program depending on how it is implemented."

Martin said it may be helpful for the borrower not to have their entire loan hanging over their heads immediately after they graduate. She added, however, the loan contingency policy would only be part of the package, and that is too early to assess how effective the entire package will be.

College president John Tibbits said Axworthy's reforms have the potential to create a major impact on Ontario colleges and universities.

Tibbits said the college will remain informed on the issue, and become an active participant in changes made by the government.

"The college is open to change," he said. "We just have to make sure we can manage that change."

## Jeff and Tessa entertain

By Dan Wettlaufer

Jeff Evason and Tessa had Conestoga students staring in amazement as the duo worked the crowd's minds with their truly fascinating "Second Sight" show.

A crowd of approximately 200 people gathered in Doon's main cafeteria to watch and participate in Jeff and Tessa's audience interactive extra sensory perception (E.S.P.) show Jan. 12 at the free Doon Student Association (DSA) nooner.

Members of the audience were fascinated with levitating tables, memory games and name guessing, as well as a blindfolded search-and-destroy mission for an ominous red balloon.

Starting with the assistance of six

See Duo, page 4



Jeff Evason and his assistant levitate a table using a technique similar to the one used for a Ouija board. (Photo By Dan Wettlaufer)

## AIDS benefit signals last WSA event

By Paul Campbell

The Waterloo Student Association (WSA), will not exist next year, according to Jeroen Stoeltjes, president of the WSA.

Poor attendance at a benefit held for the AIDS Research Foundation, Jan. 12, has convinced him that the Waterloo campus of Conestoga College can't provide enough interested students for paying events, Stoeltjes said.

"If you don't come to things when they're offered," said Stoeltjes, "then they won't be offered because people (WSA) will think you're not interested".

Stoeltjes, a second-year food and beverage management student, said when the school moved its business courses to Doon campus it took many of the students who would be attending WSA events.

The WSA is still planning to go ahead with a St. Valentine's day dance but will otherwise be sticking to free events.

Because of changes at the college only about 350 students are enrolled at Waterloo campus, said Stoeltjes.

Most of the programs at Waterloo campus are short and the students are out on work terms a lot, he said.

The WSA has had little luck in attempts to keep students coming out, Stoeltjes said. Fifty suggestion forms left out on cafeteria tables were ignored, Stoeltjes said.

Last year's bus trip to downtown Toronto had zero attendance. This showed the WSA that students didn't want to pay for college activities, said Stoeltjes. A free barbecue was held at the start of this school year which almost all of the Waterloo campus student body attended.

Wally Ebner, advisor to the WSA, said she would back up Stoeltjes on whatever decision he and the WSA made.

Planning the AIDS awareness benefit involved getting the use of Arpos, a Waterloo tavern on Davenport Road and bringing together three bands.

Stoeltjes is a full-time student and works as well and said he feels the pressure is too great to continue planning poorly attended WSA activities.

Local band Erotic Footwear and bands Shade and Nothing in Particular of Toronto provided the music for the 50 people who attended the concert.

The WSA, said Stoeltjes, will be sticking to free events like card nights and other activities that do not require the students involved to pay any cover charge.

## Police baffled: student missing

By Maria Wareham

Uma Sritharan, a 19-year-old general arts and science student, at Conestoga College has been missing since Monday night Jan. 9, 1995, said Grant McGregor principal of Doon campus.

McGregor said Sritharan was reported missing by her father, Sritharan Murugesu, on Jan. 10 when she did not return home from school Monday evening.

Sritharan's car, a white Mazda licence plate 581 VJX, is still parked in parking lot 12 which security checks every couple of hours, McGregor said.

Murugesu said in a telephone interview he believes his daughter maybe in hiding, although he is not sure why she left her car behind.

He said the last time he saw his daughter was at 7:20 a.m. on her way to school, when she did not return that evening he immediately called the police.

He said police called him back the same day and told him his daughter had called the police station and told them she did not want to go home.

Murugesu described his daughter as always being home on time and has never had any problems like this in the past. He said he wants to hear from her.

Sgt. Kress of the Waterloo Regional Police Cambridge division, said that Sritharan's disappearance has "got us baffled."

Kress said the police are asking the press for help and anyone with any information should call the Waterloo police at 653-7700.



## SPOKE

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Spoke, Conestoga College,  
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 Kitchener, Ontario, N2G 4M4  
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## We cannot afford higher tuition fees

Starting in the late '90s, a post-secondary education will be out of reach for most people in Ontario if federal proposals to phase out transfer payments to this province are approved. This is a short-term solution to the debt crisis that will leave us straggling behind others in the information age.



By James K. Leduc

American newspapers recently said Canada is a third-world country living under the guise of a first-world nation because of the crushing national debt. One of Ottawa's probable solutions to try to reduce this debt load is to eliminate the cash transfers for the post-secondary education systems in the provinces. This amounts to \$700 million that the Ontario education system would have to do without.

This lack of subsidy could increase tuition fees in the province by 105 per cent and would reduce the output of highly-trained and knowledgeable people this province and country cannot do without. The result is simple — less education equals fewer jobs. The information age is upon us and it will soon pass us by if higher education is out of reach.

John Naisbett wrote in Megatrends that we are moving from an industrial society to an information society. He states the shift from agricultural to an industrial society took 100 years, but the shift to the information society has taken only two decades and we must be ready for the future.

"We are moving into a world which will be information rich, but also a world which may be knowledge poor," Naisbett said. Accessible education is the only way we can anticipate the future and avoid the possibility of being knowledge poor.

Toffler said in *Future Shock* that at the rate knowledge is growing, by the time a child born today graduates from college the amount of knowledge in the world will be four times as great. By the time the child is 50 years old 97 per cent of everything known in the world will have been learned since he was born.

This can be compared to the communications clock some of us have read about. Imagine a clock with 60 minutes on it and each minute represents 50 years. This 3,000 year clock represents the time man has had systems to communicate. Nothing happened until nine minutes ago when the printing press was invented. Three minutes ago, the telegraph, the photograph and the locomotive happened. The telephone, motion picture, radio and car arrived two minutes ago. Television was born in the last 10 seconds and the computer blipped on five seconds later. Communication satellites are an elderly one second old on the communications clock.

David Cooke, Ontario minister of education and training, said if tuition fees are not increased, to make up the loss of cash from Ottawa, some post-secondary institutions could close.

With all the knowledge we need to acquire we cannot afford this.

## Letters to the editor

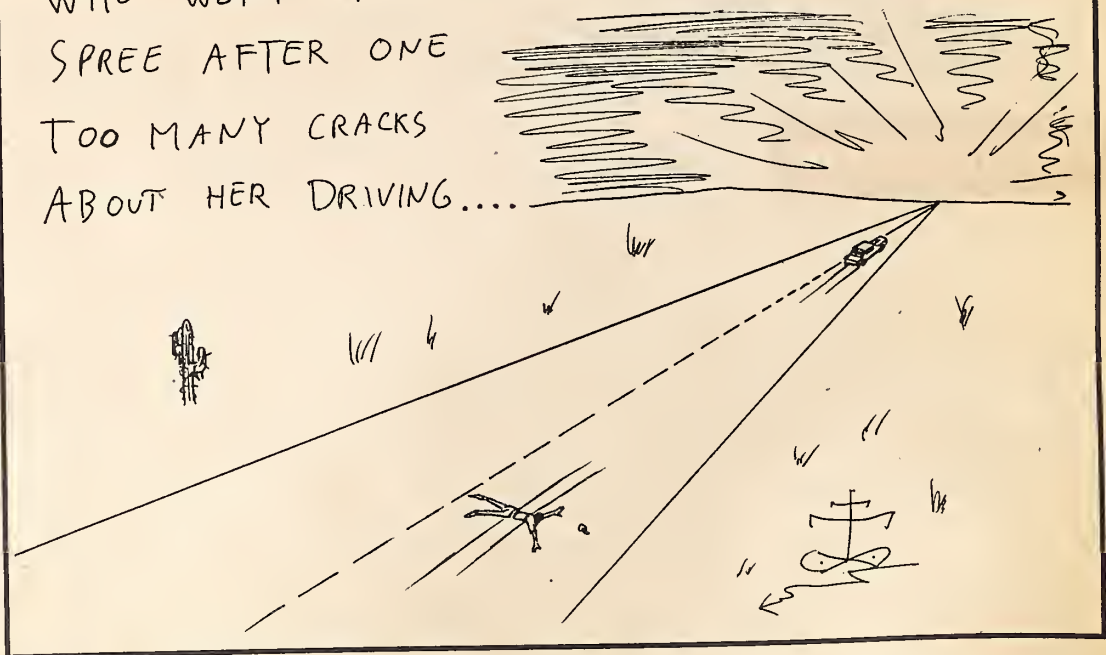
Spoke welcomes all letters to the editor. If you have a beef, or an opinion, please send it in. Spoke reserves the right to edit letters to fit space, and to remove any libellous statements. Your letter must be signed, and include your program and year for verification. Send letters to the Spoke office, Room 4B15, Doon campus.

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# OPINION

## MEET MONIQUE ...

WHO WENT ON A PROVINCE-WIDE KILLING  
 SPREE AFTER ONE  
 TOO MANY CRACKS  
 ABOUT HER DRIVING....



## Murderers are a necessary evil

When people turn on the television, the thing that attracts their attention the most is the gruesome or the unusual.

When we hear on the morning news about a single murder, it barely makes us look up from our breakfast, but when we hear of a multiple murder or a serial killing, our coffee turns cold and our Cheerios turn to mush.

Some of the people who performed these atrocities live (or lived) in infamy. Jack the Ripper slaughtered five prostitutes on the streets of Whitechapel in London. Five deaths is not a shocking figure when placed next to the 17 young men that Jeffrey Dahmer sodomized and cannibalized in Milwaukee.

When I was in high school, one of my classes held a Man of the Year award which Dahmer won by a landslide.

Even now, the whole chaos surrounding the trial of Paul Bernardo and his lovely estranged wife Karla Homolka (a fire fuelled by the media ban) has given them the status of superstars across North America.

Just how many jokes about Lorena Bobbit are there?

Why do violence and murder fascinate us so much? It is probably the same as the reason behind the popularity of movies like *Natural Born Killers*, a film casting a serial-killing couple in the role of media heroes.



By David Carlton

Anton Szandor LaVey once said, in an essay entitled "On the Importance of Being Evil," evil men and women are needed to fill a vacuum in the lives of ordinary people. According to LaVey, for the mundane people to feel truly good about themselves, they need to point their finger at an evil person for no other reason if not to feel moral.

He credited many advances in civilization to acts of twisted individuals in history.

Neither I nor LaVey condone their activity, but were it not for Hitler's atrocities, would we have the nation of Israel today? The mystique surrounding the Hell's Angels, LaVey said, gave birth to the popularity of motorcycles as domestic vehicles. He also attributed the entire political correctness movement to Senator Joseph McCarthy's social witch-hunts that were better known as the Red Scare.

So go ahead and ask the joke about what Jeffrey Dahmer said to Lorena Bobbit. Never stop speculating on who shot Kennedy. There are never enough pet theories on whether Charles Manson is the most evil man alive, a "half-assed nothing" (as he refers to himself as), or the second coming of Christ.

Stay glued to your television set, because sooner or later the wicked men with their deranged minds are going to give you an ego boost.

## Do not stereotype women drivers

Women drivers have been turned into an unflattering stereotype. No matter how they drive, they are thought of as slow and not trustworthy at the wheel. And, now that winter is upon us, they have been categorized with those ever so slow, idiotic drivers who get in front of you and go their "fast" 30 clicks an hour.

Slow drivers are from all walks of life. Young, old, black, white, thin or fat; slow driving never discriminates, so slow drivers can be female or male.

Women drivers are looked upon as the typical old-lady drivers or as someone who wouldn't know their right from their left in driving. This is how some guys think. It is degrading and sexist and should be stopped.

There is a rather sexist phrase that a man sometimes tells a woman concerning her driving — she doesn't drive like a woman. I have



By Patti Harding

been told this many times by my male friends and I feel somewhat proud when they say this to me. Why do I feel proud? I feel proud because I am breaking the mould that women seem to have been unwillingly forced into.

I, shamefacedly admit though, that I also feel proud because I have not been grouped with these incredibly annoying people, supposedly women, who crawl along the road and piss people off.

Although, getting told that you don't drive like a woman is usually perceived as a compliment, I haven't yet decided if it is a compliment or an insult? Women are seen as slow drivers and overly-cautious:

Well guys beware, there are many women drivers out there that drive just like me, and we will run you off the road.

The other thing that I seem to be battling with is, is the thought of whether driving aggressively or "like a man" is a good thing. As many people (myself included) have found out, speeding, and wheeling through stop signs can have a penalty of a hefty fine, a couple of precious demerit points lost, or death. Is that worth driving "like a man"?

Unfortunately, it seems to be. I have found that if I want to stay ahead in the world today that I don't really have a choice but to drive and do basically everything else aggressively.

So ladies and gentlemen BEWARE, I have broken the stereotype of the woman driver. Tonight, if you see a car coming up behind you just let me pass.



## Campus Comments

### Question?

How do you feel about the murder of Jeffrey Dahmer?



I'm surprised it took that long for someone to kill him. I feel no sympathy for him whatsoever.

**Jeremy Crawford**  
First-year general business

Two wrongs don't make a right. I don't think his murder really solved anything.

**Charles Zeidler**  
First-year law and security administration



What goes around comes around. What Dahmer did wasn't right, but neither was what happened to him.

**Michelle Newton** DSA executive secretary

It was a good thing. A sick demented man like that doesn't deserve to live.

**Kirk Webber**  
First-year business administration



I'm glad he died. Why should anyone who has hacked away 16 or 17 children continue to live.

**Pedro Sousa**  
First-year special studies

Dahmer was a murderer, and those people pretty much deserve to die.

**Terry Dostle**  
First-year accounting



I think it's excellent. They should have cut him up and made pies out of him.

**Dan Bell**  
Third-year robotics

I think it was good. It was bound to happen.

**Ceira Lawrence**  
First-year nursing



I don't think anyone is justified in killing anyone. It's the government who should have put him under.

**Todd Whittom** third-year broadcasting

Anyone who takes the lives of innocent people deserves to have his own life taken.

**Patti Harding**  
Second-year journalism



*Ideas? Are there questions you would like answered? Spoke welcomes suggestions for Campus Comments. Bring suggestions to the Spoke office at room 4B15 or call Spoke at 748-5366.*

## Skilled labor shortage offers opportunity for women

By Maria Wareham

A predicted shortage of skilled trades labor by the Ministry of Skills Development, and the challenge and good pay offered by most occupations are some of the reasons says Pat Cathers, co-ordinator of women in trades and technology, women should be aware apprenticeships in non-traditional field.

"Skilled labor is a huge area women haven't really tapped into," said Cathers. "And the region is strong in the industrial sector and that's where the jobs are."

Cathers is busy making the trades more visible to women. She talks to different groups in the community and offers one-on-one counselling to help prepare women going into the field.

Preparation is important, she said. Women are encouraged to view

videos of the different occupations to see if the work environment might be for them. Job shadows are also arranged and networking with other women in the trades is also encouraged, said Cathers.

"These occupations should be part of the mainstream choices for women but they just haven't been aware of them," she said.

Cathers said often some of the difficulties for women stems from not having had the same opportunity to work with tools the way men often do. "We are sidelined into the kitchen and we work with female tools."

Women also do not consider they need a certain level of income, she said. "I'm always encouraging them to think 10 years down the road. What is your lifestyle going to demand? Some people still say I'm going to marry somebody rich, well

that's not good enough anymore and you have to rely on yourself.

Women who do turn to the trades are women who've done something before and didn't produce more than \$8 an hour and finally got fed up with it."

The average age in certain sectors is 29 to 30 years old, said Cathers.

But because the idea is still new, said Cathers, and society is not attuned to women apprentices women do encounter some difficulties "Sometimes we aren't taken seriously. One of the things women can do is take a draft course and then approach an employer about an apprenticeship."

If you have an apprenticeship you're one of the lucky ones because you are on a continuum of learning. Two to five years of training and work at the same time — what could be better?" she said.

## Letter to the Editor

### Positive action is required at national student strike

I really object to being told what to do. In fact, because I tend to be contrary in nature I often endeavour to do exactly opposite to what I am told to do.

It is in this spirit that I plan on taking part in the national student strike that is going on at post-secondary institutions across the entire country on Wednesday, January 25.

Many people at Conestoga College may not be aware that a protest is taking place because our student government, under the direction of the Ontario Community College Student Parliamentary Association, is attempting to disguise the protest as a food drive.

Our elected federal government is going to increase my tuition by 105% and we at Doon are going to protest by holding a food drive. That'll learn 'em in Ottawa not to mess with us.

According to a memo sent to the Doon Student Association by OCCSPA, the food drive is to send

"a positive message to the minister that colleges and college students aren't interested in being on the lawn with placards protesting, but at the table creating workable solutions to the challenges that face us."

Heaven forbid that the students of Conestoga College want to exercise their democratic right to protest. Student organizations have been "at the table" for years, and still we are being burdened with huge increases in tuition.

The memo to the DSA also says that by holding a food drive instead of a protest or rally they hope to "distance the negative student movement from college students." I think I can decide for myself what negative student movement is, and I think it is doing nothing.

If anyone would like to take positive action in showing the government that students are not going to blindly accept tuition increases, there is going to be a rally on Jan. 25, at the University of Waterloo at

noon outside the Dana Porter Library.

There will be speakers at the rally including the President of the Regional Labour Council, and representatives from the Canadian Union of Public Employees, the Secondary Student Teachers Federation, and the University of Waterloo Faculty Association.

Hardly an anarchist among them.

Sincerely  
**Anna Done**  
second-year journalism

### Corrections

In the Jan 16 issue of Spoke, in the campus comments section, Antoinette Angelino's comments were printed with the wrong photograph. Spoke regrets the error.

## Winter Carnival POLAR PLUNGE

Take the Plunse

Thursday, Feb 2

12 noon

Doon Pond



**PARTICIPANT PRIZES!**  
Sign up forms & pledge forms available at the DSA Activities Office  
Proceeds to the Heart & Stroke Foundation





# DSA budgeting large sums

By Kerry Masche

According to a list of services and expenditures, the Doon Student Association has spent \$94,870 since Aug. 1, 1994.

Some of these expenses included an office copier which cost \$2,985 and a new Cliff the Condor mascot suit which cost \$1,150.

Some administration expenses included \$2,975 for conference fees, \$780 for mileage and travel, and \$5,330 in liability insurance.

In total, \$40,835 was put towards activity costs, \$27,275 for entertainment and \$5,730 for pubs and security.

According to the 1994-95 proposed budget plan, the DSA is responsible for making sure expenses do not exceed the \$261,820 allowed by the college

for this school year.

Deanna Ciuciura, vice-president of operations for the DSA, said mismanagement of funds could result in cutbacks by college administration for next year's budget, or the withholding of activity fee checks.

An activity fee of \$54 is included on every student's tuition statement in September.

Of that sum, \$51 is put towards expenses such as advertising, activities, entertainment, and Spoke, the college newspaper.

The remaining three dollars is put into a fund for scholarships and computers.

Ciuciura said the DSA has thought of students when planning its purchases for the school year. "We're spending it (funding) on what the students want, we're not

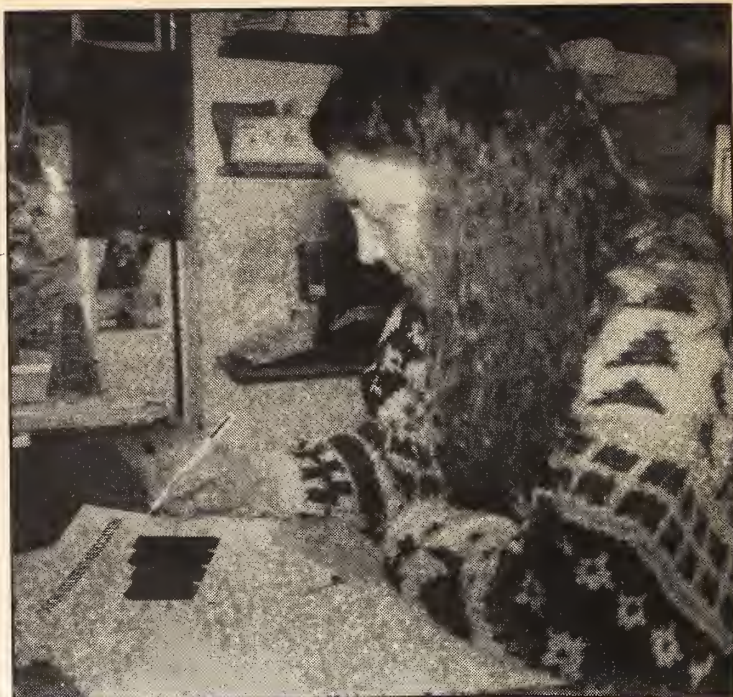
here to have a good time and spend all the money."

She said purchases such as a wide-screen television which cost about \$3,598.25 with taxes and an extended warranty, were accumulated with future Conestoga College students in mind.

"We're not just looking at this year," she said, "we've thought about the future as well."

Ciuciura said the money for the television came out of the DSA's capital development fund where extra money is placed on hold for future use.

She said the DSA tries to make sure a lot of money isn't left over because it should be used for the students who contributed that year. "All the money from this year's students should be spent on them, not put into the fund," she said.



Deanna Ciuciura, DSA vice-president of operations, looks over budget plans for the school year. (Photo by Kerry Masche)

## Repairing the damage



Ken Schiedel, an employee of Bullas Glass in Kitchener, repairs a broken pane in Door #5 on Jan. 16. The glass cost the college about \$200 to replace. (Photo by Dan Wettlaufer)

## Duo entertain lunch crowd with Second Sight

From page 1

audience members, and ending with one, a blindfolded Jeff lead his assistant, Jennifer Faller, through the crowd vowing to find the red balloon and pop it with his pocket knife.

Jeff had the audience chuckling and questioning the integrity of his E.S.P. ability while he worked himself and Faller's way through the cafeteria.

Whispers of "He doesn't have a clue." and "What the hell is he doing?" could be heard by unbelieving members of the audience.

After an amusing chase for the balloon, Jeff rewarded the crowd by finding and maiming his prey as promised.

Jeff's next act was truly amazing. With the help of a member from the audience, Jeff and his assistant managed to levitate a table using a technique similar to the one used with a Ouija board.

In plain view of the cafeteria audience the table began to shake and mysteriously move around the stage.

Then the table seemed to develop

a life of it's own, it began to rise from the stage.

Eerily the table floated beneath the fingertips of Jeff and his assistant.

The crowd approved of the act with raucous applause and cheers.

"Our main goal is to entertain. We want to get the audience talking," said Tessa, in an interview after the show.

"It's not as unbelievable as people think it is."

After Jeff's levitating act, it was up to Tessa to bring the crowd home.

First off she delighted college students with the power of her mind. Fifteen people told Tessa one thing each. Items ranged from Budweiser beer to hockey pucks and condoms to elephants.

Tessa successfully recited every object, with the correct number of the person who originally selected the item.

Next Tessa thrilled members of the audience by telling them their names, addresses, birthdays, personal items they were holding and the serial number off of someone's \$100 bill.

Tessa said the strongest part of their show is the audience participation.

"If people don't open up their minds then we don't have a good show. Today we had a good show," she said.

There is a strong bond between the two that comes across in their live acts. "The strongest part between us is that we have each other," Tessa said.

Perhaps that comes from the 12 years they have known each other and the six years they have been married.

When asked if they could read each other's minds Tessa smiled and said, "Yes. Sometimes too much."

"Everybody has the ability to exercise their mind," she said. "Using the memory is an excellent way to develop it. It's how you utilize it that varies the degree of success or failure."

If you missed the Second Sight show and want to see Jeff and Tessa perform live, you will have to wait awhile.

The couple boarded a cruise ship for the Bahamas on Jan. 16.

By Monika Greenan

Looking for a job can be frustrating at times, but take heart, Job Fair '95 is just around the corner.

This year's fair, held at Bingham's Conference Centre Feb. 15, has the same format as last year's, according to Pam Seeback, co-ordinator of student employment and co-operative education.

"We're recruiting the same type of employers (with) the same type of job opportunities, permanent, contract and summer."

The only exception to this year's fair may be the number of employers, Seeback said.

"We had about 55 employers last year and 85 for the career fair. We're hoping for 75 to 90 employers for this year's."

Job Fair '94 offered 43 full-time and contract positions, and 12 summer employers, therefore, job opportunities were available for first and second year students, as well as graduating students.

"Some (of the students) may think it's all summer jobs, but most of them were full time."

Approximately 600 invitations

from combined data bases of the University of Waterloo (computer and engineering), Wilfrid Laurier (business), University of Guelph (agriculture) and Conestoga College were sent to employers, said Seeback.

Although a cross-section of employers are invited, we have no control over who will register, she said.

"Right now technology is hot. They have the money, so we pretty well have to go with the needs dictated by the employers," she said.

Seeback said about 20 employers have registered to date, and that most will come through at the last minute.

According to Seeback, it is important that students research employers to find out what they have to offer.

"The onus is on the student to find out if the employers are the ones they're looking for," she said.

Seeback said an employers list will be posted at the office (2B13) and that students are encouraged to check the list for prospective employers.

"We just want the students to come," said Seeback. "What have they got to lose? Even if they don't get hired they are making contacts and talking to the employers."

Seeback suggested that students come to the fair prepared.

She said students should bring copies of their resumes and a pen to fill out applications.

She also said they should be ready to sell their skills.

Seeback said a professional look will be helpful in creating a good impression, but a suit and tie are not necessary.

She said information booths for students to ask questions and gather information will be set up in the college's main lobby two weeks prior to the fair.

# Dan Valkos

## Psychic & Paranormal Expert

**"Dan combines his knowledge of the paranormal with heavy doses of humor"**

**Wed, Jan. 25**

**12 noon**

**Main Cafe.**



## ATTENTION STUDENTS FROM OTHER CULTURES!



You are invited to join a "Multicultural Student Group". This informal group will meet several times this semester and provide you with the opportunity to :

- meet other students in the college
- share experiences you have had
- support one another
- practise English in an out-of-class setting

How to join: Interested students should set up a 30 minute meeting with Carol Gregory in Student Services (Room 2B12) in the first 2 weeks of January. Please bring a copy of your January timetable. I look forward to meeting you!

Carol Gregory  
Doon Student Services

food drive

## Can your Education Food Drive

January 24

College Students will be staging a Food Drive as a positive protest against the changes proposed in Human Resources Minister Lloyd Axworthy's social reform policy



Support this Positive Protest  
Bring in a Canned Food Item to gain admission to the Student Lounge & the BOD Meeting  
On TUESDAY, JANUARY 24



## Winter Carnival '95

Sun. Jan 29

Moose Bowl '95  
Flag Football Tournament & Superbowl Party at Moose Winooski's

Sign up at DSA Activities Office

Mon Jan 30

11:30 am  
Main Cafe  
FAMILY FEUD

Sign up your Family at the DSA Activities Office



Tues. Jan 31

12 noon  
in Main Cafe  
Free Nooners

featuring  
BOWSER & BLUE

Entertainment at its Best!

Wed. Feb. 1

2:00 pm  
Free Skating at Recr Centre

3:00 pm  
Co-ed  
Sno-Pitch & Road Hockey Tournaments  
3:00 pm  
Roost Party & BBQ

Sign up at the DSA Office

Thurs Feb 2

12 noon  
POLAR PLUNGE

1:30 pm  
Plunge Party at Roost

Sign up at DSA Office

Proceeds to Heart & Stroke

Fri. Feb 3

12 noon  
in Main Cafe  
The DATING GAME

5:00 pm  
Pre Game Party at the Roost  
Entertainment by Jeff Tanner

7:00 pm  
CONDORS vs Cambrian  
Draw for trip to Daytona

## MOOSE BOWL '95 Flag Football Tournament

\$40.00 Team Entry Fee  
6 player/team  
Entry includes  
Hot Dogs - Chile  
1 Beverage  
Great Prizes & Surprises!

Superbowl Sunday at Moose Winooski's

Local Hero's  
Outdoor Patio  
Great Food & Bev.  
Specials  
QB1 Superbowl Football



Register at DSA Activities Office by Jan. 23



## Board of Directors Notice of Meeting



Tuesday, January 24  
4:15 pm  
Room 1B30

If unable to attend please see Dee Dee at the DSA Admin. Office (outside Student Lounge)



We want to hear from YOU!

Any comments, suggestions, or questions are welcome!



Drop off your comments to the Suggestion Box located on the Door of the DSA Activities Office (in main Caf) The DSA will respond to questions in SPOKE.

## PRESCRIPTION DRUG CARDS

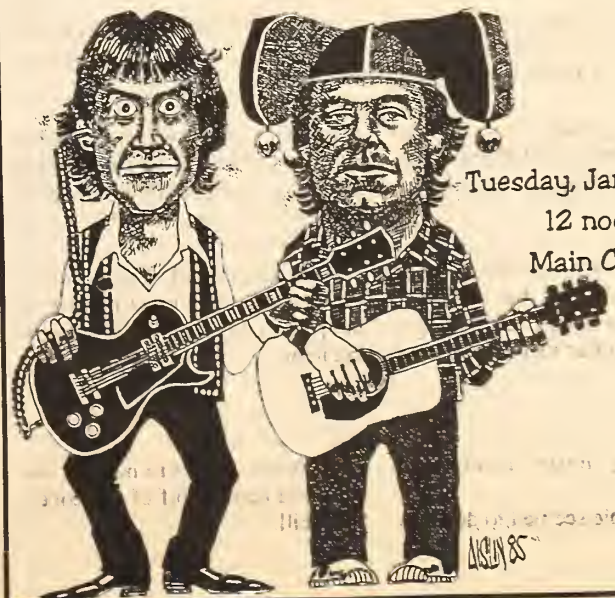
Your prescription DRUG CARDS are available for pick up at the DSA Administration Office (outside the student lounge)



Please have your student card available

WINTER CARNIVAL NOONER

## BOWSER AND BLUE



Tuesday, January 31  
12 noon  
Main Cafe.



## SPORTS

## Condors peck away at Cougars

By Jennie Richardson

In a fast, physical game, a much improved Sault team gave the Condors a run for their money. But when push came to shove, the Condors came out on top 4-3.

There were some new faces on the Condor bench, as well as some players who had been off on the injured list.

OCAA top scorer Dave Long started the game off right with a beauty from the blueline that went between Cougar goalie Dave Headrick's pads.

Armin Taege scored a diving goal against Condor Scott Ballantyne. The Cougars were striking while the iron was hot, scoring another goal less than a minute later when Brian St. Amant shot the puck over a sliding Ballantyne into the top right-hand corner of the net.

Walter McCarthy chalked up four minutes in penalties for spearing dishd out by Bryan Richards, always a popular referee at Conestoga. He received booing and comments from the stands for the spearing call, because they thought it too lenient.

Conestoga squandered the chance to score on the power play and Long received two minutes for roughing after his poke aimed for Chad Lemaire landed on linesman Schmidt's lip. Lemaire received two minutes for kneeling Long.

Joel Washkurak missed a chance for the Condors to tie when his breakaway shot bounced high off the cross bar.

Cougar Timo Willman leveled Condor Darrin Kinnear at the blueline five minutes into the

second period.

Ballantyne made a great save when a Sault shot was fired at him even though players were jammed in front of the net blocking a clear view.

Just inside the 10-minute mark, with the Condors short-handed, Washkurak made it look so easy with a nice goal in the top right corner.

Three minutes later, Bard St. Germain put one past Ballantyne putting the Cougars back on top 3-2.

Kinnear tipped one in off a pass from teammate Jamie Hooks, six minutes into the third period.

With seven minutes remaining, Washkurak was robbed of a go-ahead goal that appeared to have crossed the goalline, but three minutes later, Kinnear scored his second of the game leaving the final score 4-3 for the Condors.

Condor coach Ron Woodworth said he has a better team now, with injured players back and some new additions to the team. He said he is moving the lines around to make them more balanced.

Athlete of the Week  
Jan. 9 - Jan. 18

Scott Ballantyne

He stopped 24 of the 27 shots against him during the Jan. 11 game against the Sault Cougars.

## Athletics runs in the blood

By Jennie Richardson

For Joel Washkurak, being athletic, comes naturally. His father played football, his mother and sister both figure skated and his cousin played hockey.

His father taught him to excel in sports and school.

"He put me into all kinds of sports, but hockey is what I liked and still like to play best," Washkurak said.

He watched his older cousin Joey Washkurak play junior A hockey and followed in his footsteps. He did however have to live in his shadow for a while. "The scouts and coaches used to get us mixed up because our names were so close."

Washkurak started to play hockey in London when he was about 3 years old. He played every position until he was 14 years old, then he started to play mainly forward.

The Washkurak family then moved to Oshawa, where Joel played midget hockey until he was 16 and drafted to Kingston. He spent about two years there before he moved on to the Owen Sound Platers.

One year later he went to play in the United States on a Boston Bruins' affiliate team.

He played in the same town as the hockey cult classic, Slapshot, was filmed.

He said he thought his was a great opportunity, but he found it hard to be away from his friends and family (his family had moved to Guelph).

"It was a good league, but there was too much fighting," said Washkurak.

It must have been a rough league if Washkurak thought there was too much fighting, he has spent his fair share of time in the box, nabbing 80

minutes in penalties so far this season alone.

But Washkurak is not a goon, he can also put the puck in the net too. Last season he got 14 goals and 28 assists and this seasons has 9 goals and 21 assists.

He said "I play rough hockey, that's just my style."

He does admit that sometimes he becomes too uptight and competitive. "Sometimes, if we are losing I get down on my teammates."

But he feels he is at his best as a talented play maker when the coach lets him play to his full potential.

Washkurak has played under many coaches, but said he regretted playing for the coaches when he was younger, rather than for himself.

"I let the hockey politics get to me. If I had not let it bug me, it would have shown I was more of a team player and I think I would have went farther."

He says he is happy where he is right now. "I'm close to home, I'm in a program I like and I've met some great friends here."

This past Christmas break, Joel along with his uncle and cousin Joey, went down to Mexico to teach kids and adults.

Opening a hockey school of his own is one of the many options Washkurak has in mind for the future.

Becoming a purchasing agent, referee in the NHL or playing university hockey are possibilities he is keeping open.

Sometimes good athletes let their talent go to their head, but Washkurak is not one of them. He has not let his abilities overshadow his personality. He sums himself up as a "Don Cherry type of guy."



rec centre ad

## Nurses

## Study in Sydney, Australia

BACHELOR OF HEALTH SCIENCE (NURSING)

6 month conversion degree open to 3 year nursing diploma graduates Tuition Fees- \$4 800

ALL DEGREES FULLY ACCREDITED

Information sessions on studying in Australia are being conducted by:

Associate Professor Helen Ledwidge Dean, Faculty of Nursing and Health Sciences University of Western Sydney, Nepean

At The Nursing Career Fair, Royal York Hotel, Toronto on January 26-28, 1995 Booth No 113

OR

For further information contact the university's educational representatives in Canada:

K.O.M. CONSULTANTS

P.O. Box 60524

Mountain Plaza Postal Outlet

Hamilton Ont

L9C 7N7

Phone or fax (905) 318-8200

This could be a great opportunity for you to gain or upgrade your qualifications while enjoying the great lifestyle offered in Australia's Number 1 city.

## Pool Tournament



Friday Jan. 27  
at 1:00 - 3:00



1st Prize: Pool Cue  
Second Prize: \$25



Entry Fee: \$5



SIGN UP AT THE CONDOR ROOST



# FEATURE

## Nature centre teaches winter survival skills

By Patricia Bow

Anyone who has ever become lost on a winter trek in the woods knows it can be a tense and even frightening experience. If snow sets in, cutting visibility, or if night falls while you're still lost, the experience can be worse than tense, it can be fatal.

In this situation, the wrong thing to do is to keep trudging on blindly, says Shannon Pennington, a staffer at the Laurel Creek Nature Centre in Waterloo. That strategy, she says, can wear down your energy reserves and leave you too cold and exhausted to find or create the three essential things you'll need to survive, which are shelter, fire and food.

Pennington demonstrated some of the right things to do during the centre's Winter Wilderness Survival program, Jan. 8. About 50 people of all ages learned how to dress for the cold, how to start a fire and how to build a shelter.

With the help of staff, one group of visitors built a quinzhee — a cave dug out of a compacted heap of snow. A quinzhee is surprisingly strong and the temperature inside will stay at about 0 C, Pennington said, because snow is a good insulator.

The one drawback is that it takes at least an hour for a large heap of snow to compact enough for burrowing, Pennington said. A lean-to is quicker to build, though not as warm or windproof, as a second group discovered. They built a lean-to in 20 minutes by tying branches to a pair of tree trunks and covering the framework with pine boughs and snow.

A third group managed to pitch a

### Off-campus event

tent in about 15 minutes.

Then, before anyone had a chance to get chilled from standing around, Pennington had the three groups competing to see who would be first to get a fire going.

The key to fire lighting is to start with dry tinder — dead fir needles, birch bark or old birds' nests, she said. Surround the heaped tinder with a cone of thin, dry sticks of softwood such as pine, which will burn easily. Finally, add pieces of long-burning hardwood such as maple or beech.

Pennington said waterproof matches, available at most hardware stores, may be the one most important item you can pack when going on a trek.

Lighting a fire can be easy if you have matches and you've kept them dry. It can be almost impossible otherwise.

The drill-and-socket method is not hard to learn, but starting a fire by friction can take up to two hours, Pennington said.

You'll ward off the cold longer if your clothes are chosen to trap heat and keep you dry, she said. This means dressing in layers, choosing cotton longjohns to absorb sweat, preferring wool to synthetics for sweaters (wool traps heat best), and wearing water-repellent outer pants and jacket. Also, wear a hat.

Food is the third essential. In cold weather, you burn energy just trying to stay warm. Pennington said trail mix is good to carry because the energy it provides lasts longer than the quick boost you get from a



Shannon Pennington, part-time employee of the G.R.C.A., teaches survival skills at Laurel Creek Nature Centre. (Photo by Patricia Bow)

chocolate bar.

Failing trail mix, try pine needle tea. It's easy to make — just boil fresh pine needles in melted snow. It is also rich in vitamin C and makes a warming, slightly resinous-tasting drink. But don't eat snow, Pennington added. It dries out your mouth.

The best move is not to get lost in the first place. But Pennington's ad-

vice to winter hikers was to plan for the worst: carry waterproof matches, trail mix, a heat-reflective blanket and a compass, even on an afternoon trip.

Winter drivers should carry these, plus canned puncture sealant and jumper cables. And if you drive a lot, consider renting a cellular phone for the season, at a cost of about \$20 a month.

### WINTER CARNIVAL '95

Lace up your skates for ....

## Free Skating

Join the Party at  
the Roost



**Wed. Feb. 1**  
**2:00 pm - 3:20 pm**  
Recreation Centre Arena

Sponsored by  
DSA & Athletics

**Detroit Pistons**  
**New York Knicks**

Cash  
Only!

**Tuesday, February 14**

**Tickets: \$30**

includes ticket & transportation

Sign up at DSA Activities Office

by February 10

Coachline will depart from  
Doon Campus Door 4 at 3:00 pm



## The More You Participate, The More Chances To WIN!

### a Spring Break Trip to Daytona Beach



#### Participate in

Flag Football Tourn.

Family Feud

Road Hockey or Sno-Pitch

Tournament

Skating

Polar Plunge

the Dating Game

or attend the parties at Roost

or the Varsity Hockey Game

& your name will be

entered into a draw for a

trip to Daytona

Draw to be held  
Friday, February 3  
at the Varsity Hockey  
Game (game time 7 pm)

Must be a Full Time Student of  
Conestoga College to be eligible to win



# Now Playing!

## NBA

### Weekly Pool

Free Entry

Weekly Prizes sponsored by  
OTOOLE'S

Mid Pool Prize awarded Mon. Feb. 13  
1 ticket to Detroit Pistons Game on  
Feb. 14 vs New York Knicks

Grand Prize Awarded  
April 24

Winner will be determined by participant  
who is in top place of the standings

# Election '95

CHIEF RETURNING  
OFFICER

Required to run the  
1995 DSA Election

Apply by  
Wednesday, January 18  
to Deanna at the DSA  
Administration Office

The CRO will receive an honorarium  
upon completion of his/her duties

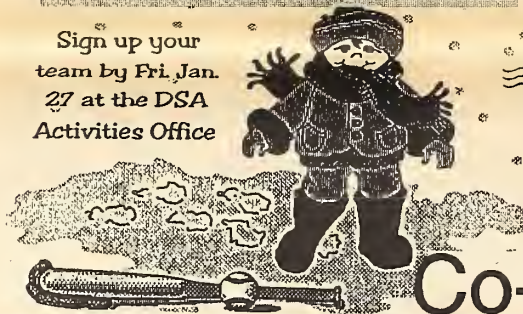
## SNO-PITCH TOURNAMENT

Winter Carnival  
Sno-Pitch Tournament

Wed. Feb. 1

3:00 pm - 5:00 pm  
Recreation Centre

Sign up your  
team by Fri. Jan.  
27 at the DSA  
Activities Office



Co-Ed

Attention  
Graduating Students

## Grad Photo Time

Graduation Photos will be taken

February 6 - 9

February 13 - 16

Sign up your class by  
Friday, January 20

More information available at the  
DSA Activities Office.

## Counsellor's Corner

By Joan Magazine

A student revealed to me that his father was dying with AIDS. He was in the process of grieving the loss and struggling with how much time to devote to his own life and school and how much time, of the precious little left, to be with his Dad.

After a class conversation, another student approached me. Her mother had died last month. She is frustrated because no one understands that she needs space and solitude, not constant company. Her grieving process is different from others in her family. There's no "right way" to grieve and everyone needs to be respected for their way of grieving.

Each of us differs in how we respond to loss, but it is important that we grieve.

During the first stage of grieving, feelings may include disbelief, denial, anger, guilt, loss of appetite and sleep and emotional outbursts. Shock and numbness are normal, as are feelings of despair, crying and restlessness.

The depth and breadth of the grieving process depends on the individual and the nature of the relationship with the deceased.

It takes time to work through any loss, and with time, comes a renewed sense of hope and release.

Allow yourself to reach out to others, when you feel ready, and know that counsellors in Student Services are people to whom you can talk to about loss.

There is also a community outreach program called **People Need People**, through the Edward R. Good Funeral Home. (745-8445)

# Co-Ed Road Hockey Tournament



Winter Carnival  
Road Hockey Tournament

Free Entry!

Great Prizes!

Wed. Feb. 1

3:00 pm - 5:00 pm

Recreation Centre

Sign up your teams by Fri. Jan. 27  
at the DSA Activities Office



# For a quiet drink

## Mature students request quiet lounge



Mature students (left to right) John Nicholson, Frank Szedetzki and Ben Noseworthy meet at the Cactus Rose on Fridays as part of the mature student's club meetings. (Photo by Maria Wareham)

By Maria Wareham

A proposal to designate room for a student quiet lounge will give mature students the type of atmosphere they have been looking for at the college, says Laura Vaillancourt president of the mature students group.

Although it is not official yet, the board of directors were favorable to the idea when Vaillancourt presented it, she said.

"We feel there is nowhere that we can sit, relax, study and socialize in peaceful and quiet surroundings. The library is quiet but you can't eat or drink, and the student lounge is great if you like rock music and people yelling," she said.

Vaillancourt said they are not asking for total silence just a place with different atmosphere

to meet the needs of students that want peace and quiet.

The quiet lounge would not be for mature students only, she said. "Younger students have said to me they also want a place like this."

The lounge, if it is approved, would be located somewhere in the B wing of the campus once the new business wing is completed, she said.

The idea has been passed to the student expansion committee, she said. "They are responsible for proposing the designation of space in the B wing."

Ben Noseworthy, vice-president of the group and acting as an advisor on the expansion committee, said that although there has been no formal commitment to have a quiet lounge has been made yet, it is looked upon favor-

ably by administration.

There would be some expenses involved, he said, "but there would be cost fees anyway with restructuring the layout of the B wing, and we are not looking at bringing in a big screen TV."

Vaillancourt said she plans to become involved with the layout of the lounge itself once a planning stage is reached.

The group is currently holding its weekly meetings on Friday afternoon's at the Cactus Rose, in Kitchener, as a way to get more people involved, said Noseworthy.

"This is the kind of environment we are looking for. It's quiet and we can socialize. Last week a couple of guys showed up who would never come to a meeting, but because we were here, we got their output."

## DSA keeping lounge watch

By James K. Leduc

See Dick litter in the lounge, see Dick cheat at games, see the lounge closed.

These were the words on the sign posted on the closed doors of the student lounge last December before the Christmas break. The sign is still there, above the doors now, to remind students the Doon Student Association (DSA) will take the same action if students continue to vandalize and litter, said Michelle Newton executive secretary for the DSA.

Newton said the last closure did not have much impact on students and warns the lounge will close again if cheating the foosball and pool tables out of money becomes a problem as it had before the Christmas break. "Some days it is nice and clean," Newton said. "And some days it is just disgusting."

Newton said when tacos are sold for lunch outside the student lounge

it creates problems because people tend to leave most of that garbage behind. Jacki Allin, vice-president of student affairs, said she agreed but noticed a problem when hot-dogs were sold outside the lounge.

Newton said the college's cleaning staff is responsible for the maintenance of the lounge. She said she does not clean because she does not want students to think she will look after the mess they leave behind.

"I just leave it be and they can

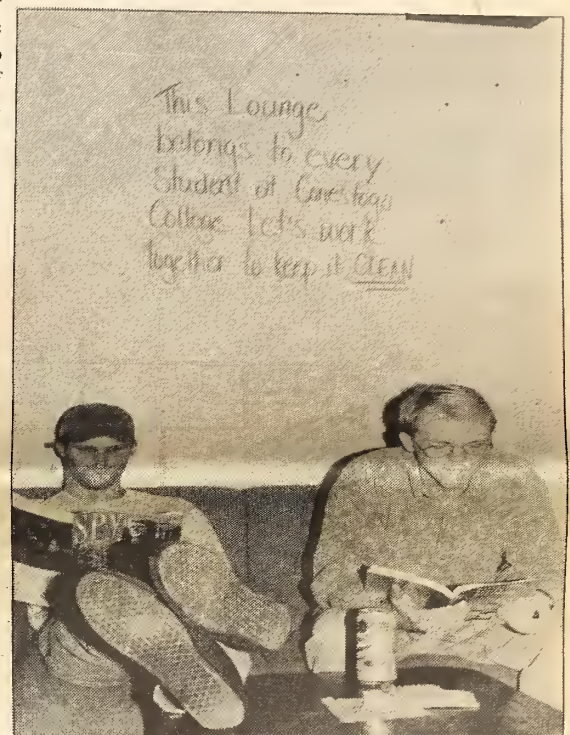
bage all day long," Newton said.

Both Newton and Allin said as far as they know it was the first time the lounge was closed to students. Newton said she overheard security staff at the college say the DSA has closed it before, but Allin said there was no record to support this.

Newton said Sabina Kampf, president of the DSA, went around and glued signs to the tables in the lounge to remind students to keep the area clean. She said one area where students might have got the hint is cheating the games in the lounge out of money by stuffing copies of Spoke in the holes of the table to keep the balls in play.

"I check it once a day and haven't really seen any signs of stuffing paper in the pockets of the pool table to prevent the balls from going down."

She said the rental company that supplies the games and tables for the lounge area are in the process of bolting down the foosball tables.



First-year students Steve Visser (left) and Dave Frazer relax in the lounge. (Photo by James K. Leduc)

# Election '95

State your candidacy  
for the DSA Executive

POSITIONS AVAILABLE

President  
Vice President of Operations  
Vice President of Student Affairs

NOMINATIONS OPEN

Monday, January 30, 9:00 am  
to

Thursday, February 9, 12 noon

Nomination Forms and more  
information available at the  
DSA Administration Office

## SNO-PITCH TOURNAMENT

Winter Carnival

Sno-Pitch Tournament

Wed. Feb. 1

3:00 pm - 5:00 pm

Recreation Centre

Co-Ed

Sign up your  
team by Fri. Jan.  
27 at the DSA  
Activities Office





# Conestoga entertainment in focus

Jeff on his balloon hunt



Photo by James Leduc

Tessa is right again

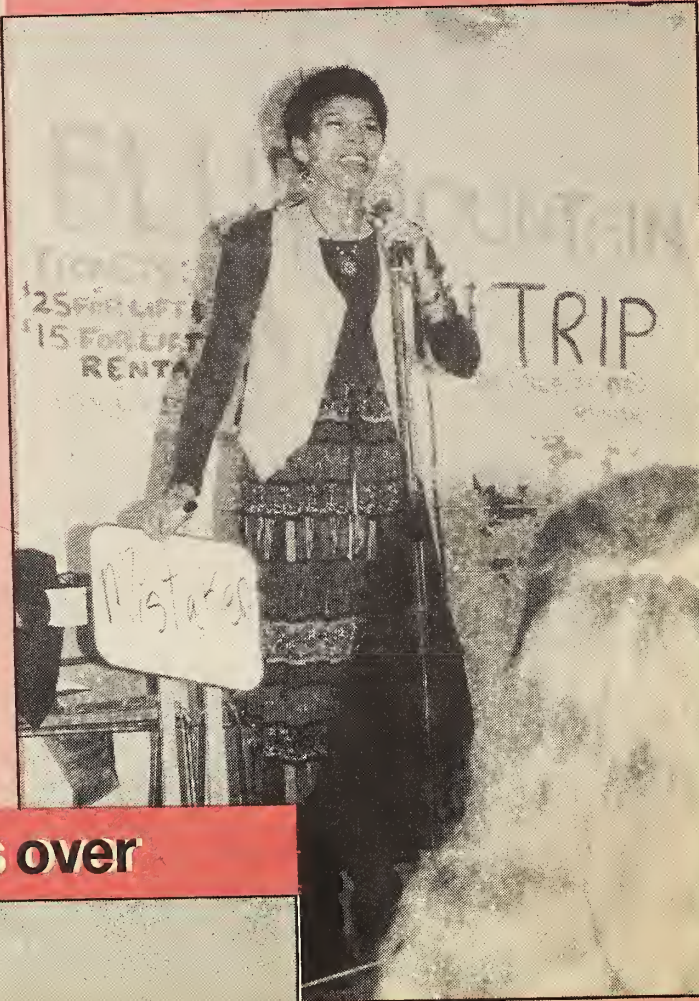


Photo by James Leduc

The balloon hunt is over



Photo by Dan Wettlaufer

Jeff and Tessa, ESP entertainers, kept the students on their toes during their performance in the main cafeteria on Doon campus Jan. 12. In their performance, Jeff was lead around by Jennifer Faller in search of a red balloon (above left). Tessa guesses a word picked out of a book (above right). Jeff finds the balloon he was looking for during his performance (right). Jeff and Tessa kept students guessing all through their show (bottom left). Claudia Zoque holds the book from which Tessa guessed the word mistaken (bottom right).

Guess the word



Photo by James Leduc

Smiling for the crowd



Photo by Dan Wettlaufer



# Perspective

## DSA Pre-Election

### DSA executives look back on their terms

By David Carlton

The Doon Student Association (DSA) is soon to come under new management.

Next month the elections will begin for the three elected positions in the DSA, and most of the current members are either graduating or leaving office.

The DSA President, Sabina Kampf, a third-year marketing student, has been running the show since the election last year.

"She's basically the backbone of the organization," said the DSA's vice-president of operations Deanna Ciuciura. "If any of us has any problems we go to her. She keeps us all in line and basically oversees everything that everybody does, and makes sure that it's done properly."

One year ago, Jacki Allin started her tour in the elected position of vice-president of student affairs.

A third-year marketing student, Allin, 21, said that she hopes to find work after she finishes this semester, and would possibly like to continue her education somewhere outside the province in two years.

"The work I do is work that the students actually see," she said, "such as the bus passes, the drug plan, awareness weeks and clubs."

When Allin looks back at her term so far, she said that she feels her crowning achievement to be the implementation of the new drug plan.

"I would like to find out what the students think of it. It's something I feel the students need, because some students can't afford prescription drugs. We're just trying to help out."

Deanna Ciuciura, 23, is a second-year general arts and science student. She is not only responsible for DSA operations, but is also responsible for the board of directors (BOD).

"Dee Dee is in charge of the board of directors," Kampf said, "which includes recruiting the BOD members. She's also in charge of the election; everything from organizing it to running it."

Third-year management student Shelley Kritz, 21, has dealt with sponsors and other businesses in the region in her hired role as director of public relations.

Kritz said this year has seen more sponsorships and contacts with over 80 outside businesses.

Becky Boertien, 27, returned this year from a maternity leave to resume her hired position as the activities co-ordinator. A graduate of Fanshaw College's recreation lead-

ership program, she has been responsible (for the most part) for putting together the DSA's activities.

In her term, which ends in December of this year, according to her one-year contract, she has seen more diverse activities brought into the school's life.

"Basically," Boertien said, "we brought new trips into the program and added more sports. And we're trying to get a few more things done for mature students, like family days, family skating, things like that, which is something that we have to start targeting because most of our students are mature students."

Twenty-five-year-old, third-year broadcasting radio and television student Brad Logel has the title of director of entertainment and student activities. He is not actually in charge of the activities, however.

Logel said, "I'm an advisor on what activities we should run. I am

also responsible for booking the entertainment and bringing it in."

Most of the entertainment that Logel has been responsible for this year has been in the form of concerts.

"I have a few things that I'm proud of," he said. "Any big concerts like Blue Rodeo and Big Sugar. That's top quality entertainment. And then there was the Watchmen and Spirit of the West, which is a show that you would usually see at universities. Basically I tried to bring in as much

entertainment as possible, even though it was few and far between."

After all of the memories, Kampf said that no single achievement may be credited to a single person.

"Everyone on the DSA has pulled their weight," Kampf concluded. "Maybe at different times, but in the end I think everyone has worked beyond their job description. If we achieve, it's going to be as a team, and if we make a mistake, then it's going to be together. We wouldn't want one person to be singled out."



### DSA president a fulfilling job

By Patti Harding

Unlike the student-body presidents at universities, who take time off from their studies to complete their duties, the student-body president of Conestoga College does not.

DSA president Sabina Kampf, a third-year marketing student, copes with her studies, which at times can be hectic, along with her duties.

When Kampf was first elected she had many hopes for the DSA and the student body of the school. Many of these have been implemented.

"When I was first elected I wanted to increase participation at events and increase student morale," she said.

As the summer of 1994 progressed and Kampf became accustomed to the new duties, she and the rest of the executive decided that, along with increasing participation and morale, they were going to attempt to strengthen the relations with the administration and faculty. To try to increase student participation the executive introduced clubs that did boost it, some of which still are going, Kampf said.

Along with increasing student morale and participation in events, the executive is also trying to increase student participation in the board of directors. Although only four months are left in the school year, not all classes have representatives. Kampf said they will still try to get reps from every class until the end of the year. "It's hard because we're in school and we're trying to get ideas and it's just a matter of getting the time to do it."

Along with the good times there are bad times that go with being the president of such a diverse student



body but Kampf and her executive have learned to deal with the problems as a team. Job descriptions sometimes overlap and people will disagree about whose job it is. "In a way that's good because both of them want to do their job but then you have to stand back and say 'okay we have a problem' and then it gets into a personality problem and you have to bring it to a meeting."

Meanwhile as the year winds down, Kampf is thinking about the job of next year's DSA. Everyone has to have a file of recommendations that will be put into a manual so that the next

DSA can learn from the previous one, Kampf said.

"We're building the foundation and we want them to learn from all the recommendations for each activity. They're going to have a hard enough time with the new space coming in, we want to make it as easy as possible."

Not all the DSA events are successful and as a team, the DSA executive has dealt with the failures, but Kampf said she thinks that the 1994-95 DSA is the best team that they could possibly be.

Kampf wants to be remembered not as the president but as the council that built a foundation for future DSA executives.

Being the president takes a lot of dedicated time but is something that Kampf doesn't really want to give up. She said that it is hard when the executive is only in for that one year and they can't use their knowledge of particular events for the next year.

Kampf wants the executive in the years to come to work together as a team and make a difference as she and her team hope they have.

### Mature students want candidate

By Monika Greenan

With the Doon Student Association elections fast approaching, the Mature Students' Club (MSC) is hoping to entice a mature student to run for election.

The only way to meet mature student needs is for a mature student to sit on the DSA, said Laura Vallencourt, a business administration management studies student and MSC president.

But trying to balance studies and home life is time consuming and more than enough for most mature students to handle, she said. "I can't speak for everybody, but single parents, like myself, don't have enough time."

Although we have an "excellent DSA this year, it's important to have a mature voice on the executive," said Ben Noseworthy, a first-year CPA student and the only mature member of the board of directors of the DSA.

Most younger students have no idea what it's like to have a mortgage payment, kids, a part-time job and full-time studies, said Noseworthy. "We need a mature student perspective on the DSA."

This year's DSA has looked at mature student issues, listened and tried to help, according to Noseworthy.

The MSC was invited to help with the DSA sponsored family Christmas party in December. About 50 children attended and everyone had a good time, Noseworthy said.

A skating party, planned for Feb-

ruary, has been put on hold but the DSA has agreed to rent the ice and provide hot chocolate for skaters when the MSC sets a definite date.

Vallencourt said she feels that there should be more social events for mature students. "It's nice to socialize with people our own age."

That's one reason the MSC has moved their weekly meetings (every Friday at 1 p.m.) to the Cactus Rose. The only space available at the college was the Blue Room or a classroom, neither of which had the desired atmosphere, said Vallencourt.

A quiet lounge could be on the DSA agenda if a mature student runs and is elected to the DSA.

Although a quiet lounge has been proposed, nothing concrete has been decided, said Vallencourt.

We will appeal to all students to elect a mature student for a position on the DSA, Noseworthy said.

If a mature student wishes to run but is concerned about their workload, Noseworthy said the MSC would help out as much as possible.

For example, if the person needed child care, because of a DSA meeting, we could provide baby sitting free of charge, said Noseworthy.

The DSA meetings start at 4:30 p.m. and run until 6 p.m. and children cannot be left in day care until 6 p.m., said Vallencourt. For the mature student, family responsibilities take precedence, she said.

The MSC has not formally discussed the upcoming elections, but Vallencourt said, "I would like to see someone run (for election)."



# High percentage of materials management grads employed

By Mark Waddell

The business administration materials management program at Conestoga's Doon campus has had over 90 per cent of their graduates finding employment.

According to a handout from program co-ordinator Paul Knight, the three-year program is one of the few full-time post secondary programs of its kind in Canada. The program prepares students for positions in purchasing, inventory and production control.

Knight said the program's success rate hasn't been lower than 74 per cent, which was during the recession. However, he noted the recession effected every program.

According to the handout, the employment list is as follows: NCR,

Allen-Bradley, Bell Canada, Toyota, Boeing Aircraft, the University of Guelph and the City of Cambridge.

He said courses such as Value Engineering, offered in year three, make the program unique because McGill University is the only other post-secondary institution in the country that offers it.

He said the course is a "fool proof" way of coming to cost savings on a product that a company has manufactured.

He said General Electric, along with many Japanese companies, practice this method of saving cost on materials.

Knight said that's why the Japanese are competitive in the world.

He also said year three students form teams and work with compa-

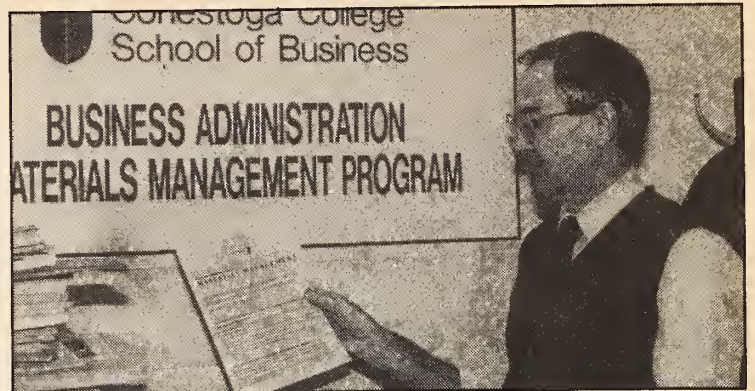
nies for eight months gathering information so they can submit a written document outlining how they can save production cost.

Graduates are provided with skills that enable them to spend company funds wisely, manage inventory and plan production, according to the handout.

"People are mistaken when they think labor cost is the biggest cost, but it's not. It's the materials used in making the product," said Knight.

He said a high percentage is directed towards materials and a lower percentage towards labor, overhead and profit.

"If you have 60 cents of a dollar directed towards materials, you better be making good decisions on material costs," said Knight.



Paul Knight, co-founder of Shadow Day, displays proof of the 90 per cent employment success rate. (Photo by Mark Waddell)

Graduates receive special course exemptions when trying to attain a certified professional purchaser title (CPP), which is the highest position in the materials management

field.

Conestoga students can attain their CPP in about five years as opposed to other students who take 10 years to complete the course.

## Students shadow employers

By Mark Waddell

After a year's absence, the business administration materials management program, has two Shadow Days planned for Tuesday, Feb. 7 and Thursday, Feb. 9.

Program co-ordinator Paul Knight said, Shadow Days are designed to give second-year business material management students the opportunity to work alongside people who work in the business industry.

Ignatius Nfana, a second-year materials management student, said he is looking forward to examining the everyday affairs of people in the workplace.

During Shadow Day a student will embark on a tour of the company they have been assigned, says Knight. According to a handout from Knight, about 22 materials management students will participate on each day — about 44 students in total.

The idea of Shadow Days for the material management program originated about five years ago.

Knight and Steve Cook — a 1986 graduate of Conestoga and vice-president of the Central Ontario District of the Purchasing Management Association of Canada (PMAC) and Anne Wood an executive advisor with PMAC, decided to implement students into the workforce for one day during the semester.

Some companies participating in Shadow Day are: Toyota, Wilfrid Laurier University, University Of Waterloo, Magna International Inc., Bell Canada and Boeing Aircraft.

Conestoga's three-year materials management program, which has had over 90 per cent of graduates find employment, is the only full-time post-secondary institution in Canada that prepares students for positions in purchasing, inventory and production control.

Knight said, graduates from the materials management course are provided with skills that enable them to spend company funds wisely, manage inventory and plan production.

## Nighttime day care a possibility at college

By Blake Patterson

Nighttime day care may soon be an option for late-working Conestoga students if a newly-formed task force determines that the need for such a service warrants the expense.

The task force has been established by the college to examine the apparent problem of unattended children in the halls after hours and to devise a new policy to address the concerns of a changing student population.

At present, college security's policy regarding children allows them in the college but not in the computer labs. However, mature students say the current policy does not take into account the special circumstances and difficulties faced by Conestoga's single parents.

The president of the mature students' club, Laura Vaillancourt, said a new policy must be created because student-parents who

would like to return to school in the evening to complete assignments are often forced to stay at home because a baby sitter can not be found.

Vaillancourt added that the current policy is outdated not only because more students with children are attending Conestoga than ever before but because it fails to recognize the fact that many of today's children have computer skills far in advance of the skills their parents are still trying to learn at Conestoga. "I know children who are more responsible around computers than students are," said Wichenhauser.

Concern about the inadequacy of the current policy was first expressed by mature student representative Ben Noseworthy, at a Nov. 22 Board of Directors meeting. Noseworthy informed the board that college security had "hassled" a late-working student who had brought her child into a college computer lab after regu-

lar school hours. "Not all parents can afford to pay a babysitter every time they have to return to school to finish up work" said Noseworthy.

But physical resources manager Barry Milner, chair of the new task force, said he hopes the problem can be addressed.

Milner said any new policy recommended by the task force will not reinvent the wheel but will reflect the changing needs of a changing student population.

Concerning the makeup of the task force, Milner said his team will reflect a cross-section of the college community.

The task force's first action will be to conduct a survey to determine the need for such a service. The survey, according to task force member Jack Fletcher, will let the task force know how great the need is and how much students would be willing to pay for an after-hours day care service.

## College Madhouse Super Party THE ROXX

Friday, February 10  
TICKETS: \$5.00

includes Transportation  
bus departs from Door #4  
at 7:00 pm

Sign up at  
the DSA  
Activities Office  
by Tuesday,  
February 7

Age of Majority  
Required

Game Time  
7:00 pm

Condors  
vs Cambrian  
Pre Game Party

Entertainment by  
Jeff Tanner

Door Prizes!  
Chance to Win Trip to Daytona!

at the  
ROOST  
Fri. Feb. 3  
5:00 pm

Free Admission  
to Party  
& Free Hot Dogs  
(1 per person)



Just what you need to  
Survive Winter!

Winter Survival Kits

on Sale Now  
\$15

Available at the DSA Activities Office

Get yours  
before the  
BIG FREEZE!





# Multicultural group to begin at Conestoga

By Maria Wareham

Meeting the needs of Conestoga students from other cultures has encouraged Conestoga student counsellor Carol Gregory to start a multicultural student group, says Gregory.

Students from other cultures have often expressed the need for such a group, said Gregory. "They feel there is a real need for this."

Students will be able share common experiences and concerns, offer support and be able to practise their English outside a classroom environment, said Gregory.

The English language is one area of concern for many students she said.

Gregory said the group should be an exciting experience because of the mixture of cultures. Often groups like this also offer the basis for long term friendships, she said.

The group which will be meeting in an informal setting will direct where it wants to go and students will identify what it is they want, said Gregory. Both Gregory and peer tutor administrator Helen Brown will be directly involved with the group.

Prior to the Christmas break, there were about 10 students who showed an interest in becoming involved, but with further advertising Gregory said she is hoping more students will become aware of the group and join.

No definite date has been set yet for the first group meeting, said Gregory, but it will take place either the last week of January or the first week in February.

One of the problems they are encountering is scheduling time that's convenient for everyone because of the students' different timetables, she said.

Interested students should stop in at student services with their class schedules and talk to either Brown or herself, said Gregory.



Student services counsellor Carol Gregory has started a multicultural student group at Conestoga. (Photo by Maria Wareham)

## Sports only a part of business Winter semester to get more courses

By Nicole Bardeau

The hockey season has been saved and fans are excited but what about the sports taverns?

Are the owners and managers breathing a sigh of relief?

"Not really," says Joe Mineo, manager of the Edelweiss Sports Bar and Tavern. "Except for playoffs, people usually rush home after work to watch the game. Not having a regular season didn't really hurt us. People stayed here longer because there was no reason to hurry home."

The lack of a regular NHL season was not a big concern for the Edelweiss because of its diverse clientele.

"We get a good mix here," said Mineo. "Our customers are from blue collar to white collar to students."

Despite the strike, Mineo said the tavern still sees some of the local softball, baseball and hockey teams who come out after games.

Although they usually come to catch the end of a Leafs' game, the odd team still make the stop for a beer and a friendly jibe at a teammate's blunder.

Mineo said that although his customers are mostly sports fans he also caters to families, office groups and special events unrelated to sports.

In between hockey and baseball seasons, the staff of the tavern usually "takes a 24-hour rest" and then launches into the next thing Mineo said.

This year there won't be a real break in between the two but "baseball doesn't get really going until later in the summer," said Mineo. But, the Edelweiss doesn't sit idly by waiting for the season to pick up.

Mineo said, "We run events all the time like karaoke, casino nights, Valentines Day, a disc jockey and dance weekend, and possibly a pyjamas party in the near future."

"We try to get everyone involved," said Mineo. "During our busier periods we try to tie our business increase to charity fund-raising."

The Edelweiss' latest charity event will coincide with Superbowl and proceeds will go to the Cancer Research Society.

Hanging from the ceiling in the backroom is a huge blue canoe which will be raffled off as part of the fund-raiser. There will also be a draw for a denim Budweiser jacket.

Mineo said that Conestoga students remained faithful during the hockey drought and are invited to a tailgate party on Superbowl Sunday starting at 1:30 p.m. on the patio. There will be a barbecue and outside bar.

"It's the old pep-rally," said Mineo.

During the playoff's business increases said Mineo.

"Those games keep the people here longer. This way we get to the good stuff faster."

Although people complained, I don't



Joe Mineo and bartender Ann Stever of the Edelweiss Tavern (Photo by N. Bardeau) think it (the lack of hockey) hurt them, said Mineo.

The revival of some of the season and the playoffs are still new to most people, he said.

"They are still going to pay the big dollars to see the scheduled games."

By Don Ross

The popularity of special and general interest courses available through continuing education has led to the addition of 32 more courses in the winter semester.

Courses in astrology, pesticide technology and bass fishing are added to an already wide-range list of fringe courses.

A lot of the people who enroll in these courses do so to alleviate the monotony of day-to-day events, Frania Banks, director in the continuing education department said.

"They also take these courses to assist in their current field of employment, and also as a means of upgrading," she said.

For most self-interest courses a certificate of participation is awarded. It does not

usually, in of itself, qualify you for employment, although a lot of jobs are found through these certificates, she said.

One certificate that does qualify someone for employment is a bartending course held at the University of Guelph.

Another course is the 21-hour food-retail management course.

"We are constantly changing and updating our courses. By listening to teachers proposals and studying the marketability and seasonability of them we can determine which ones will likely be successful."

One course that has been successful is a course in wine tasting done in conjunction with Seagrams.

"It is a comprehensive 5 week course in tasting, serving and storing wines, and enrolment has been full every semester," she said.

Only 1 in 10 courses had to be cancelled since last year as a result of either high administration costs, high cost of supplies, or poor enrolment.

"The first consideration is that there is enough money to pay the teacher."

A course that is approved in the continuing education department is usually given a trial run for three hours and if positive results are noticed it is developed into a 5 or 6 week program.

"The popular courses are not changed, although we do hold affinity meetings to upgrade them."

A Canadian firearms course has been added as a result of the implementation of the new Canadian firearms safety test that must be passed in order to obtain a Certificate for Firearms Acquisition.

## Continuing education adds personal finance courses



By Don Ross

Conestoga College's continuing education department has added more personal finance and investment courses to this year's course calendar in response to suggestions by teachers and the community.

Financial Strategies for Successful Retirement; Mutual Funds Made simple; and Investment With a Conscience are a few of these courses, to start early this semester.

"Suggestions for new courses in the general and special interest section are routinely taken from teachers and student appraisal forms," Frania Banks, a director in the continuing education department says.

These financial courses will cater to the average investor who does not possess a lot of knowledge in personal investment, Tim Johnson, said teacher of Mutual Funds Made Simple and Investment With a Conscience.

"These are people interested in growth-oriented investment but not willing to take the risk associated with direct involvement in the

stock market."

"These courses will hopefully allay some of the fears associated with investing money in major companies, by showing them some lower risk alternatives to the stock market," Johnson said.

Johnson, a financial planner in Waterloo, said there is a focus today on Mutual Funds because you have someone else managing your investment portfolio.

Mutual funds occupy the middle ground between General Investment Certificates and stocks. They are managed by highly skillful managers or team of managers. It is a pool of money taken from many investors and put into stocks, bonds, mortgages, specialty investments (like natural resources of precious metals), or treasury bills. They can focus either on one or two of these asset classes or take a broad-based approach.

"Basically it gives stock investors a way of inadvertently investing in the stock market without inheriting the risk," he said.

Johnson said there is a desire among people today to find ways of securing their future with the existing problems in the job market.

"There is \$130 billion invested in mutual funds today and I proposed this course because I think it is important for investors to understand completely this alternative to GICs."

Investment with a conscience deals with social investment where investors are motivated by ethical and environmental responsibility of an enterprise as well as its' financial viability.

"Investors today are more environmentally conscience, a traditionally environmentally sound company is the best for long-run invest-

ments, Johnsons said."

"These are known as 'green funds' and can be invested in the same way as other mutual funds."

Both courses are held at Waterloo campus on Saturday mornings from 9 a.m. to noon. They can be taken individually with no mandatory prerequisite.



Tim Johnson teaches in the continuing education program. (Photo by Don Ross)



A different ...

# Perspective

## Famous disappearance haunts Kitchener

### Kaiser's bust hidden in a dusty barn?

By Patricia Bow

It may be Kitchener's most famous disappearance.

How did 90 kilograms of bronze in the shape of a German emperor vanish from a locked room, and what has become of it since that chaotic night in 1916, just before Berlin changed its name to Kitchener?

Nearly 80 years later, the mystery of the Kaiser's bust has become a part of local folklore. There are at least five theories on its fate, including one that has it stashed and forgotten in some dark corner of the Concordia Club. "The puzzle remains an intriguing one," says W. R. Chadwick in his book, *The Battle for Berlin, Ontario*.

The 4.2-metre (14-foot) monument to Kaiser Wilhelm I, a bronze head-and-shoulders bust on a granite pedestal, was erected near Victoria Park lake in 1897, soon after the park opened.

In his history of Kitchener, John English says the monument was a focal point for local pride in a city where, at the turn of the century, nearly 80 per cent of the population were of German origin, though most were Canadian-born.

But when war broke out in 1914, the image of Wilhelm I — the grandfather of Wilhelm II, the enemy — became a focus for patriotic outrage. In her book, *The Kaiser's Bust*, Patricia McKegney describes how quickly Berlin, with the rest of Canada, was swept by waves of anti-German feeling.

The war was only two weeks old when three militiamen pulled the bust off its pedestal and dropped it into the lake. Divers retrieved it, and it was stored at the Concordia Club on King Street West for safekeeping. But it wasn't forgotten.

In 1915, the 118th Overseas Bat-

alion was mobilized in Waterloo County. It soon became obvious that Berliners were not enlisting in large numbers, though they had already shown their loyalty, McKegney says, by contributing more per capita to the Patriotic Fund than the citizens of any other city in Canada.

Recruiters blamed the slow enlistment on the influence of German-speaking churches, German-language newspapers and cultural organizations such as the Concordia Club. This, McKegney says, was despite the fact that nearly half the men who signed up had German names.

Tension was already high between the 118th and many of the townspeople, because of the rough recruiting methods adopted by the troops. Then, in February 1916, the Parliament Buildings in Ottawa burned. Though the cause of the

on Queen Street South and locked it in a detention cell.

The provost corporal testified at the military inquiry set up to look into the incident that he had put the key in his pants pocket, rolled up the pants and slept on them. But in the morning the bust was gone.

This is where fact gives way to rumor.

An article in the K-W Record of Oct. 4, 1966, cites an unidentified ex-officer of the 118th as saying the bust was smuggled out in the baggage when the Battalion, still under strength, left for training in London. There it was taken to a foundry, melted down and made into napkin clips, each bearing the crest of the 118th.

The anonymous officer donated one of the clips to Doon Pioneer Village (now Doon Heritage Crossroads) and it is now on display there. But Tom Reitz, Doon's manager and curator, says the origin of the clip is "a bit of a myth." There is no proof that the clip really was made from the bust, he says.

In a telephone interview, W. R. Chadwick said it seems unlikely the larger-than-lifesize bust, which would have needed two men to carry it, could have been smuggled out in the baggage. It seems just as unlikely that the bust was made into napkin clips, because of the fact that only one such clip has surfaced. Ninety kilograms of bronze, he suggests, would make a lot of souvenirs.

What did happen to the bust, then? Chadwick says a significant fact is that a Sgt. Pawson, who lived at 34 Courtland Ave. E., just around the corner from the barracks at 307 Queen St. S., at one time had two extra keys to the detention cell.

Stressing that he was speculating, Chadwick said that a small group of NCOs probably took the bust from

the cell, not wanting it to be confiscated by the authorities. Chadwick says they could easily have carried it out the back of the barracks to Pawson's house, and hid it there till the furore had died down.

After that, who can say? Chadwick referred skeptically to the rumor that the bust is buried in a back yard on Young Street. If it's buried at all, he says, the most likely place is in the lane or backyards behind

bust has been seen on a local farm.

Mills says an acquaintance, whom he refuses to name, was travelling in a rural area near Kitchener in the mid '70s. According to Mills, a farmer took the man into a barn and showed him a large, battered metal bust with broken shoulders. The man noted the mutton-chop whiskers, but because he wasn't a local he didn't recognize the image for what it was.

**The farmer showed him a large, battered bust with broken shoulders...**

fire was never officially determined, it was blamed on German saboteurs.

Chadwick's book describes the events of the night of Feb. 16, 1916. Inflamed by alcohol and anti-Hun rhetoric, about 50 men of the 118th broke into the Concordia Club and ransacked it. They smashed windows, broke up furniture and threw the debris into the street to make a bonfire.

The Kaiser's bust was their chief prize. They beat on it with canes as they paraded it along King Street. Later they took it to their barracks



The 4.2 metres bronze and granite memorial was erected in 1897 by a group of leading citizens. (Photo courtesy of Waterloo Historical Society)

the old barracks and the row houses which still stand at the corner of Courtland and Queen.

Rych Mills has a different theory. A local history buff and collector, Mills is a member of the Victoria Park 100th birthday historical committee, a volunteer body under Kitchener parks and recreation. The committee has been researching the history of Victoria Park, preparing for its centennial in 1996.

Mills doesn't entirely discount the story about the Doon napkin clip. The bust took a lot of rough treatment on the night of the raid, he says. Large pieces of bronze broke off the shoulders and were picked up as souvenirs, and one of these fragments could be the source of the clip, he reasons.

But what about the bust itself? Mills says it's likely that whoever took it soon found it too hot to keep, and might have passed it on to a civilian, someone who agreed to take it out of the city and hide it to prevent further trouble.

He says he was recently told the

It was not till 1993, when Mills showed him a photograph, that the visitor realized what he had seen 20 years before, says Mills. By then, he couldn't recall exactly where he had seen it.

For now, the mystery rests there. Mills says he hopes to eventually zero in on the farm's location through conversations with his source, whom he describes as reliable. "But I almost think I'll have to have him hypnotized."

And if he does recover the Kaiser's bust? It belongs to the city, Mills stresses.

The best outcome, he says, would be to see it restored to its original spot on the shore of Victoria Park lake, where its story began nearly a century ago.

**This supplement for SPOKE was written and produced by the inaugural J1A class in the Journalism - Print program at Conestoga College.**



Thrown into the lake in 1914 by zealous militiamen, the bust was retrieved by divers and taken to the Concordia Club for safekeeping. It remained there till 1916. (Photo courtesy of Waterloo Historical Society)



# Rebirth of the Stone Age: '90s newest trend

By Lori Grant

Some women place them in their bras to attract sexual activity.

Some rub them on a cut to speed the healing process.

Some carry them as a source of good luck.

Others wear them around their necks to gather positive energy.

They may be considered a sham by many, but gems and crystals have become a significant part of the 1990s shift to alternative mental and physical healing.

Gemologist Judy Deneau of Knar Jewellers, Kitchener, says gems and stones have been part of civilizations for centuries. "It depends on the society and what they thought of a stone. It's interesting to see who believed in what."

One culture she says would grind stones and put them in their food. Deneau says the people believed if they digested the mixture they could prevent certain diseases.

One stone that is not considered helpful in that regard is the opal which, Deneau says, is considered by most people to be a source of bad luck, because of a play written in 1895 called *Ann of Gerstein* by Sir Walter Scott. In the play the heroine owned an opal which changed color with her moods. But when she died the color of the stone turned grey, which attached the superstition to the opal.

Somehow the power of gems has been universally recognized; they

by some to affect the body and spirit. But choosing a gem depends on the consumer's sense of self says Magic Mountain sales assistant Kim Remus. "Some people are totally absorbed," says Remus. Some women put rose crystal in their bras to attract sexual activity.

Rose crystal is also believed to attract love, says Chatman, who considers herself a believer. "It worked for me," she says.

"I have a boyfriend that's 12 years younger than me," she adds with a laugh. But for sceptics it would not work well, says Chatman, because

**"But every part of the earth is alive. I think that is the truth."**

— Jill Chatman

they don't have faith in the stones.

We're all part of the electromagnetic field, and so are stones, says Chatman. "When you bring the two fields together, it's magnified."

She says society does not associate with rocks as living organisms. "But every part of the earth is alive. I think that is the truth."

Judy Johnston of London, another believer in the power of stones,

with them.

Chatman says she bought a friend a small rose quartz as a gift. "She had to take it off because she couldn't hang on to it." "Apparently it gave her strong 'urges,'" says Chatman. "It's a very strong stone."

Valerie Ternan, an art therapy student at the University of Western Ontario in London, does not believe in the physical healing power of stones. "But I believe in the spiritual side of stones," she says. During a period of "soul searching," Ternan says she received a bear stone while she was in "hibernation" and the stone comforted her as it reminded her of her best friend.

Ternan says she uses rune stones when she feels she is lacking direction is life. Runes are small stones imprinted with hieroglyphic-like symbols. Ternan says people choose runes from a bag and look up their meaning in a rune book that corresponds with their thoughts.

Ternan used the runes once when a co-worker was leaving. "None of us could explain how we felt about him leaving." All of the employees chose a rune. Ternan says everyone was told what each of the runes meant later on and it was exactly what each person wanted to say. "It was more than just coincidence."

Remus says, "One man comes in here every holiday and buys his mom a piece of jewelry. She probably owns every stone in the store."

Most people buy gems because of their birthstones or aesthetic value, says Remus. "Coloring's important," she says. "Earthy" people tend to buy and wear moonstone (said to relieve anxiety and stress, aid in the birthing process, reduce the tendency to over-react emotionally) and jade (said to increase longevity and fertility, radiate divine and unconditional love, and dispel negativity).

Remus says more conservative people tend to buy amethyst — the most popular gem. Amethyst is believed to enhance psychic abilities, to help mental disorders and to act as a powerful blood cleanser and energizer.

"Amethyst is a wonderful stone I really connect with," says Chatman. "It's a very spiritual stone. It's part of the crown chakra." Chakras are different points on the spine associated with the power of stones, she says.

Deneau says every stone has a myth, and the amethyst's is interesting. It was believed to stop people from intoxication, she says. The myth holds that people poured wine

over an intoxicated woman and she turned to stone — believed to be amethyst, Deneau says.

Carnelian is another stone that is popular, says Remus. People with reddish hair — for whatever reason — tend to buy carnelian she says. Carnelian, a yellowish-orange colored stone, is said to energize the blood, enhance attunement with inner self and facilitate concentra-



A two-inch hematite stone sits on a brass stand. Other stones the same size are available at the Magic Mountain Trading Company.

(Photo by Lori Grant)

## Crystal Awareness Guide

**Amber:** Resin from prehistoric pine trees. Exerts positive influence on endocrine systems, spleen, heart. Activates altruistic nature. Spiritualizes the intellect. Chakras: navel, solar plexus, crown.

**Amethyst:** Strengthens endocrine system and immune systems. Enhances right brain activity. Powerful blood cleanser and energizer. Helps mental disorders. Enhances psychic abilities. Aids channeling abilities. Healing, divine love, inspiration. Chakra: crown.

**Bloodstone:** Strengthens and oxygenates bloodstream. Strengthens heart, spleen, bone marrow. Reduces emotional/mental stress. Powerful physical healer. Inner guidance, altruism, idealism. Chakra: heart.

**Carnelian:** Energizes blood. Aids kidneys, lungs, liver, gallbladder, pancreas. Aids tissue regeneration. Facilitates concentration. Opens the heart. Warming, social, joyous. Chakras: navel, solar plexus, heart.

**Garnet:** Strengthens, purifies, vitalizes and regenerates bodily systems. Love, compassion. Enhances imagination. Chakras: heart.

**Hematite:** Positive effect on bloodstream. Increases resistance to stress. Helps circulate oxygen throughout body. Enhances personal magnetism, optimism, will, courage. Powerful stone for those attached to it.

**Jade:** Strengthens heart, kidneys, immune system. Increases longevity and fertility. Aids eye disorders and female problems. Radiates divine, unconditional love. Dispels negativity.

**Moonstone:** Healing affinity with stomach, spleen, pancreas, pituitary gland. Relieves anxiety and stress. Aids birthing process. Helps female problems. Chakra: heart

**Opal:** Aids eyesight. Enhances intuition. Helps conscious connection with highest aspects of being. Chakras: heart and others (depends on colors).

**Quartz crystal (clear):** Stimulates brain functions. Emotional balancer. Dispels negativity in one's energy field and in environment. Excellent for meditation. Enhances interdimensional communication and communication with higher self and spirit guides. Chakras: all.

**Rose Quartz:** Increases fertility. Eases sexual/emotional imbalances. Helps clear stored anger, resentment, guilt, fear, jealousy. Cools hot temper. Enhances self-confidence and creativity. "Love stone." Chakra: heart.

(Compiled by the Legion of Light)



Medicine stones are believed by its users to have healing powers when rubbed. These stones usually retail for under five dollars.

(Photo by Lori Grant)

have survived, with their stories about life, death and the afterlife. The Indian culture in the book *The Sacred Path* regards stones and minerals as part of living life, says Jill Chatman, who works at Beadelighted, a bead shop, in UpTown Waterloo. "The Indian concept is my philosophy too," she says.

They called the minerals and stones "the stone people," Chatman says and the book says the earth speaks to us through these stones. "Every part of mother earth is alive and working."

Chatman says the natives in *The Sacred Path* believe crystals are the cells of the brain of mother earth and the minerals are the bones of her body.

Whether rocks are used for their transformational properties, or worn as a fashion accessory, certain gems and crystals are characteristic of certain powers.

Beadelighted and Magic Mountain, also in UpTown Waterloo, sell gems and crystals that are believed

wears dream catcher earrings which have turquoise stones suspended by wire. Turquoise, is said to regenerate tissue, and help creative expression, communication and friendship. "It's a good healing stone," said Johnston. "It's good for me and it's supposed to be good for my aura."

Johnston says she sometimes wears around her neck a small medicine bottle that purifies and holds her stones, such as clear quartz, garnet and hematite. Each stone is supposed to lift her spirits, says Johnston who says she purifies the stones with salt. However, Johnston did say she does not wear the bottle often enough to notice a change in her mood or persona.

Remus says people like the stories or myths attached to the gems. "People gobble that stuff up. I don't know why that is."

Remus says many people buy gems and crystals as gifts and choose according to their significance and the energies associated

tion.

There also seems to be a trend among young people towards clear, quartz crystal, which is said to receive, activate, store, transmit and amplify energy, says Robin Plein, manager of Magic Mountain.

The crystal is cleansed by purifying it with four elements: sea salt, air, soil and water. After the crystal is cleansed, it then takes on the energy of the wearer. "It's now their crystal," Plein says. "Some are cloudy after because it absorbs the bad stuff."

Chatman says you can be purify stones and crystals in other ways. You can place it in sea salt and water left overnight or in sunlight for one week, or bury it in the ground, she says. Chatman also says a stone can be passed through cedar or sage incense.

Every morning Chatman says she purifies the stones at Beadelighted with incense. "You have to purify the space."

lein says people who have chosen an alternative lifestyle "have a

See "Stones, continued..." on Page 16



## The art of water witching

# Tapping into an ancient natural resource

By Linda Orsola Nagy

The minister said it was witchcraft. But the farmers somehow convinced him to try it. He held the willow crutch firmly yet sceptically in his hands as he walked forward. Suddenly he felt a sharp tug towards the ground.

He looked at the crutch and saw the protruding end had developed a mind of its own. It pointed to the ground.

With the aid of something he neither believed in nor could explain, the minister found the spot to dig the well for the parsonage.

Isabelle Radke was a young girl

brother-in-law. He and Sam Rohr, Isabelle's cousin, lived in New Dundee before they died. They both would have been about 85 years old now. Their stories live on through Isabelle.

Bob Radke, she says, used a pocket watch as his pendulum for dowsing. He practised dowsing so extensively "he had a ridge around his finger from the chain of the watch," says Isabelle. He found water once on her farm, she says, and the source was so strong his watch just "went wild."

Sam Rohr used a willow crutch when he searched for water, says Isabelle.

rate.

Pickering says he has witched about 25-30 wells in the area over the years and the jobs are divided equally between building contractors and private requests.

Wilson, on the other hand, says he has dowsed across Ontario, in places such as Meaford, Cambridge, Kitchener, Trenton, Belleville, Cornwall and Amprior. His base fee is about \$50, but he says that increases the farther away from home he has to travel.

He says he does a lot of work for Smith Drilling, which he claims will not drill for water without witching the prospective area first.

"Sure it's a gift," he says of the ability to dowse. It might have something to do with the electricity of the body, he says, and the stream grounding that electricity.

Wilson says he once saw a woman dowse with her hands.

Preferred tools vary from person to person in most fields, and dowsing is no exception. Pickering says he tends to use an apple crutch to source water, although he does sometimes use an L-shaped copper wire to double-check his finding. Wilson says he generally uses a welding rod as his dowsing tool, but has used a coat hanger, a crow bar and various wood crutches.

John Mather (not his real name) is a former water dowser who lives in New Dundee. He knew both Bob Radke and Sam Rohr. He no longer dowses for water and prefers anonymity so people won't pester him to do it again.

Scepticism is part of the reason Mather no longer practises dowsing. He says some people tried to embarrass him and prove that he didn't know what he was doing.

Fearing that failure would give him a bad name in the area, he decided to give it up, he says.

There was a time, how-

ever, when Mather practised dowsing with enjoyment and success. It started when he needed a well of his own.

"I discovered a vein and it gave me some faith," he says.

Mather says he used a polished copper rod, roughly 1.25 metres in length, for dowsing. When he found a vein the rod would bow and the extent to which it bowed indicated the strength of the source. It would pull the rod to the ground if the water sources was a strong one, he says.

Mather also says he never charged for his services. "I did it to help people." He says he often helped family members but has also worked through referrals.

Like Bob Radke and Sam Rohr, Mather says he believes that dowsing is a gift — you have to have the feel for it.

But he also says he believes if a hopeful dowser is contacted or touched by someone for whom dowsing works, it is possible for the hopeful to be successful.

But what is the future for water witching? In an ever-increasing technological and scientific society, does the art have a future? Spencer Wilson says he thinks it does.

"More people are beginning to believe it," he says. Although sceptics may scoff, Wilson says he is getting more and more calls to request his services.

About one in 100 people are probably capable of dowsing.

— Spencer Wilson

when she saw the minister in Roseville discover the underground stream with the willow crutch. The 78-year-old woman, who now lives in New Dundee, had both a brother-in-law and a cousin who regularly practised the art of water dowsing.

Also known as water witching and water divining, water dowsing is the art of finding underground water sources with the aid of a dowsing tool such as a forked stick or some kind of pendulum. With a forked stick, the protruding end of the Y goes down when the dowser is over the water source. With the pendulum, the dowser establishes a code to interpret the movement. A balanced weight on the end of a light chain or string is an appropriate pendulum tool.

No one knows exactly when or where dowsing originated. Cave drawings in Algeria dating back 8,000 years show people watching someone holding what looks like a forked stick. These pictographs may be the first known depictions of dowsing.

A Chinese adventurer named Yü, who lived in the third century B.C. is the earliest recorded dowser known by name.

The Bible also makes reference to dowsing. On two occasions Moses uses his rod to find water.

Bob Radke was Isabelle Radke's

According to her, both men concentrated their skills on farms in Waterloo County and said they felt the ability to witch for water was a gift. They believed not everybody was capable of doing it, she says.

Drilling companies have a range of opinions on water witching. Ross Noll of Strata Drilling Inc. in Preston says the company he works for has never used a water dowser. However, Noll says he believes in witching for water.

Reliable Well Drilling in Cambridge uses dowsers periodically, says owner Gary Drysdale, but the instances are limited because water is so common in the area.

Smith S. D. Drilling of Acton keeps the names of two dowsers in its business file: Spencer Wilson and Lloyd Pickering.

Wilson lives near Georgetown. The 82-year-old retired farmer says he learned dowsing from his uncle and has been practising the art for 60 years. About one in 100 people are probable capable of dowsing, he says.

Pickering, 71, lives in Milton and says he has been water witching for about 30 years. He, too, was once a farmer, and says he picked up dowsing on his own. He says no one else in his family practises dowsing.

Both men claim to have a high success rate. Wilson says he miscalculated only once out of the 100 times he dowsed last year. Pickering claims a 95 per cent success



Dowser Hamish Miller, a blacksmith by trade, uses L-rods he fashioned himself. (Photos, The World Atlas of Divination)

### Stones, continued ...

lifestyle, but rather a part of a changing lifestyle such as vegetarianism. It is the combination of taking care of your mental and physical self, she explains.

Plein says, for healing the physical self, a stone is laid in specific patterns on the area of the body where the ailment is felt. Meditation is also involved as the energy in the stone or crystal is released to the body.

Chatman says the Indian and Hindu belief system uses a chakra system that runs up the spine and has seven tower points and minerals are associated with the points. Each chakra is associated with a

color that represents the stone's power and characteristic properties, she says.

But if that is not your choice of healing, Chatman suggests an elixir. She says a woman she knows put semi-precious stones, in their raw states, in distilled water and placed it in the sunlight. The woman told her she felt better after she consumed the elixir, says Chatman.

Deneau says hundreds of years ago people were less inclined to think about scientific remedies, so stones were linked to cures. "Stones had their own characteristics." But because society's medical practices have evolved, not as many people believe in them, she says.

"To me, it's not how a stone works, it's the fact that it uses something natural," says Plein, "instead of valium." She says, "You have to think, if you cut your finger and a message is sent to your brain to bleed, why can't we send a message to stop it? It has to do with control."

Stones call out to believers, says Chatman. "You can hear the voice of crystals, well not literally." She believes different people choose different stones for a reason. If they have a need they will find a stone that will teach them something at a spiritual level, says Chatman.

"I happened to pick up a crystal and more and more it felt like a gentle rock," says Chatman. "It re-

ally wasn't an awesome crystal, actually it's homely."

Chatman says she believes stones and crystals are "definitely not a fashion statement" because of the power of the stones.

Chatman she says has no scientific proof for her faiths in stones, "It's just what I personally believe."

### Where to buy stones

- ❑ Beadlighted: 60 Regina St. N., Waterloo
- ❑ Greenbacks: Westmount Mall Lucy in the Sky: Waterloo Farmers' Market
- ❑ Magic Mountain: King Street, UpTown Waterloo
- ❑ Mayan Crafts: King Street, UpTown Waterloo



Dowsing is often depicted in rural scenes.



## UFO tri-city tour reveals

# Close encounters of the Cambridge kind

By Nancy Usjak

The wind slashed through the treetops as a spaceship the size of a Hyundai Excel hovered in the starry Elora night sky and descended into the backyard. The ship landed on the concrete deck of the family pool.

Bev (not her real name) does not remember how she got out of her house that night in July 1988.

Clad only in a nightshirt and socks, Bev found herself pulled aboard the spaceship, piloted by two small grey beings with huge cat-like eyes, and transported to the mothership where she was examined.

According to the 1993 Canadian Unidentified Flying Object Survey published by Ufology Research of Manitoba, UFO sightings are on the increase. In 1993, 489 sightings were reported, an increase of more than 200 per cent over the previous year.

Bonnie Wheeler, founder of the now-defunct Cambridge UFO Research Group, remains the region's top UFO expert. She says she has investigated dozens of cases, including Bev's, since 1976.

Wheeler, of 170 Strathcona St., Cambridge, began investigating UFO sightings after taking a parapsychology course at Conestoga College in 1976.

Wheeler's classmates urged her to start a UFO group. "I seemed to be doing most of the talking about UFOs," Wheeler says. She sent out a news release that triggered a response from media outlets from as far away as California and Florida.

Wheeler, who describes herself as a down to earth person, begins her UFO investigations by first determining the credibility of the witness. "That person has to prove to me that they've had a sighting, or I won't believe it," she says.

A case Wheeler says is believable is one that involved Bev in 1988. The then 28-year-old wife of a university professor was abducted for the third time at her home.

At 3:50 a.m., according to Wheeler, Bev was on her way down the stairs from the washroom when she saw a strange being, about 2.5 to 3 feet tall in her kitchen. In a daze, she returned to her bedroom and dozed off.

Later, a low throbbing noise awakened Bev and she saw a being moving about in her bedroom. She screamed and tried to wake her husband who slept as if in a coma. Bev was abducted and taken aboard the mothership where she was physically examined.

In an examination room filled with television screens, Bev saw another human, a woman, who was visibly upset.

However, Bev remained calm and accepted the situation. As she floated back into her bed, she saw two cat's eyes staring down at her from the bedroom wall.

The next morning, as Bev, her husband and her house guests — a couple and their son who had spent the night at Bev's home — ate breakfast, Bev's friend's son, Jason, 4, told them he had seen a strange being with huge cat's eyes in his room the night before.

Wheeler said the fact the boy saw a being that looked like the one Bev encountered proves her story is credible.

Bev took her story to Eric, an acupuncture therapist in Waterloo who says he doesn't want his name used because he doesn't want "kooks" to call him. Eric helps UFO abductees regain lost time using laser acupuncture to relax and focus their minds.

Eric says he became interested in UFOs while serving in the air force in western Europe. "I suppose how I became interested in UFOs is through military intelligence. During the Cold War, there were rumors about a new fighter aircraft the Russians built. Then, we found it was the Russians that thought the Americans built the aircraft. At one point in time, we started to become aware that the new aircraft had nothing to do with the Russians or Americans. The technology was superior. Later, I became a member of the UFO research group in Scandinavia."

He says he has since been helping abductees in Scandinavia, Germany and Canada for 25 years.

Eric says one of the most interesting cases he's been involved with is the Pinebush Road, Cambridge, incident. He says a nurse's aid came to him to remember the 15 minutes she lost while driving home on Pinebush Road from dropping her sons off at a hockey game. "I hit the right points the first evening," says Eric.

He says he helped the woman remember that on the way home, she saw what appeared to be a star in the sky. The star — a dome-shaped spacecraft — landed in front of her car. Eric says she was told to get out and go with the beings in the craft. She tried to resist, but floated helplessly out of her car into the spacecraft.

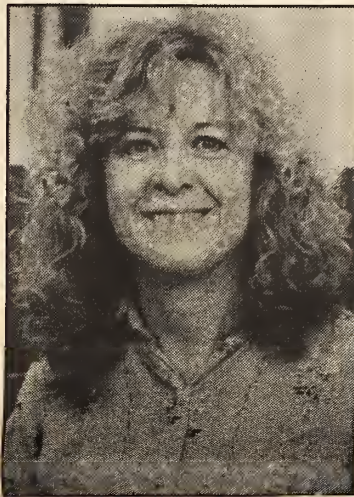
Eric says the woman was forced to crouch in the craft which she described as cold, and was transported to the mothership. In the mothership, she was led down some corridors and into an examination room.

Eric says when the beings discovered she had had a hysterectomy, they were no longer interested in her.

"Because we got a lot of information, I didn't want to overstress her. I backed off so she could think about what she remembered," says Eric, who as a rule, does not work with abductees for more than an hour at a time.

"She started losing hair," says Eric. "She had been subject to some kind of radiation. After the first session, the next day, somebody came to her and told her not to reveal anything. It was a traumatic experience for her."

Eric says the extraterrestrial beings are benevolent and scientific in nature. Although the woman suffered radiation sickness, he says the beings are more humane than earth-



Bonnie Wheeler remains the top UFO expert in the region.

Photo by Nancy Usjak

lings. He says accidents like hers do happen.

Eric says the beings come to earth to collect samples for genetic research and that he has had many experiences with UFOs.

He says he saw what he calls a research craft in Heidelberg, Ont., in 1984. While Eric and his secretary were visiting the village, a UFO that looked like a capsule the size of a van flew low to the ground and into the sky. He says it had a

fluorescent glow and made no sound.

However, his secretary complained of ringing in her ears after the incident.

Currently, Eric helps abductees brought to him from two UFO research groups in Toronto at night, free of charge. "I do it to support the research," he says.

Wheeler, who has worked with Eric in her investigations, says, in another case, a UFO landed in the playground of Queen Elizabeth public school on Hoffman Street in Kitchener on Jan. 10, 1979, in full view of a teacher and three boys, age 5, 7 and 11. The witnesses contacted Wheeler and drew sketches of the spaceship — a saucer-shaped craft with a row of round lights across the bottom.

Jim Fraser, who taught at the school in 1979, says he doesn't recall such a UFO landing. However, in 1979, lightning hit the white apartment buildings across from the playground. The ground shook and teachers called the students inside, he says.

According to a 1957 newspaper article in the Cambridge Reporter, aliens also landed near Galt on July 30, 1957. Jack Stephens, 15, and his dog Tex were out hunting in the hills around the Knapp farm, at RR 7, when Stephens saw a silver spaceship about 105 metres in diameter spin and hover over the trees and land near a hydro line. It rested there for about 45 minutes.

The article says Stephens returned to the landing site with friends Danny Oliver, 14, and Gerry Pawelko, 14. They saw sets of three-toed footprints 13 centimetres deep and 30 centimetres apart — two huge footprints and several smaller ones — contained in a pressed-down circle about 90 metres in diameter.

Dorothy Pawelko, Gerry's mother, remembers the incident well.

Pawelko, 76, of Galt, says Gerry and Jack hurried to the house to tell her of the UFO landing site. "The boys wanted something — plaster — to fill in the footprints,"

Pawelko says.

They took plaster commonly used to fill in the holes in walls. Pawelko says Gerry begged her to come see the site.

"At first, I thought this was a kid's trick," she says.

However, when she got to the site, Pawelko says she knew something unusual had happened. "Tex was barking his fool head off. He wouldn't go down the hill. There was something going on. There were big tracks with claw marks. I was quite amazed. The stubble was pushed into the ground so far that an ordinary person couldn't do it."

Pawelko says she gave Gerry a box camera with a new role of film to take pictures of the site. But, she says, oddly, the pictures didn't turn out.

Pawelko says the event was a confusing time. Reporters flocked in from Hamilton, Toronto and Kitchener.

She says even a lab was set up near the site by S.J. Hartman, who ran a chemical ground analysis lab in Galt.

Pawelko says a man she doesn't know made the boys sign a document promising they wouldn't talk about what they had seen.

However, according to a story in the Kitchener-Waterloo Record in 1957, officials at the Detweiler hydroelectric transformer station near Petersburg dismissed the boys' claims.

They said silver-colored helicopters made regular inspection trips along the hydro lines.

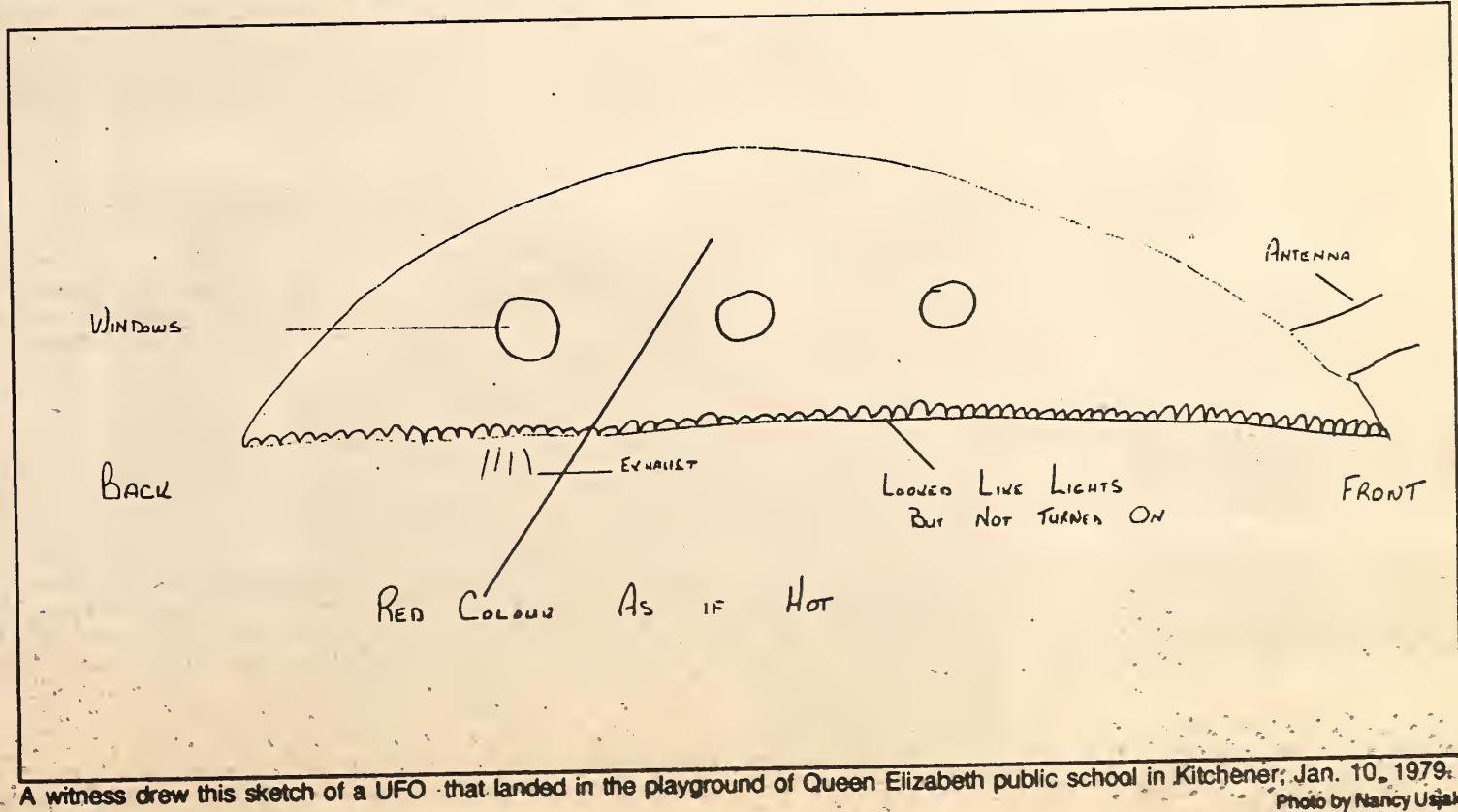
But, Ontario Hydro Commission officials denied the UFO was a hydro helicopter.

Later, Pawelko says, the boys faced ridicule. "The poor kids took an awful riding. The rest of the kids at school laughed at them."

To whom do UFOs appear or approach?

"They seem to pick people at random," says Wheeler. Wheeler says she has never seen a UFO.

"It's like winning a lottery, I think," she says. "Your chances of seeing a UFO are very slim, but when you do, it's spectacular."



A witness drew this sketch of a UFO that landed in the playground of Queen Elizabeth public school in Kitchener, Jan. 10, 1979. Photo by Nancy Usjak



## Freeport's Francine

## Spectral nurse a chilling reality for some

By Nicole Bardeau

Some say the incidents are electrical glitches. Others say they are the result of over-active imaginations. Others, however, say it is "Francine." Whatever, they all are part of the "unexplained" at Kitchener Freeport Hospital.

Little is known about the origins of Freeport's resident ghost but those with an opinion say Francine is a caring and benevolent presence.

Freeport community relations director Linda Jones says Francine is thought to have been the first director of nursing when the hospital was called the Freeport Sanatorium, around 1916. "Her job was to supervise the nurses and rumor has it she has followed through, even beyond the grave," says Jones.

The period during which she was supposed to have been nursing coincides with the garb she reportedly has been seen in — a long heavy dress with a white apron. Francine is assumed to have been a spinster who never left the sanatorium's compound.

Jones says she remembers playing a joke on the chief executive officer when she was new at Freeport: "I pretended I had seen a woman in a long gown, wearing a white apron. The CEO's jaw dropped — then I told her I was just

which is where the nurses' residence had been, around 9 p.m. I felt an eerie presence that gave me goose-bumps. There was a breeze and a door shut." There was no one — visible — who could have shut the door.

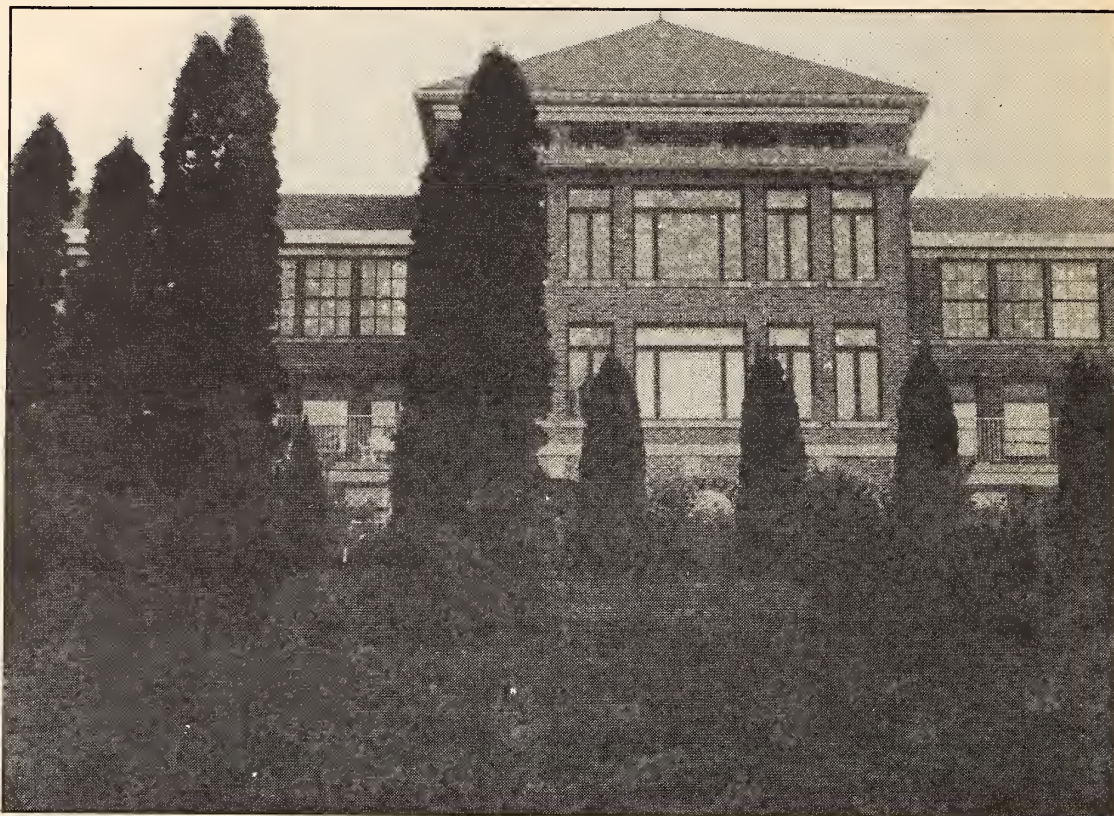
Jones says some staff have complained of electrical problems and unaccountable events in the newest part of the hospital, a wing that was built five years ago. But, she says, "they were all just bugs that every new structure must endure. Francine sticks to the old wing."

She says there was a report that two young nursing students saw the ghost in their residence in the 1970s but that has never been confirmed.

Perhaps Francine is just a myth the staff passes around to excite new employees, as Jones suggests, but that does not explain accounts given by various people, staff and patients alike, who claim to have experienced some degree of "Francine".

Jones says she was told by Bob Cook, a maintenance man, now retired, that he had "sensed" Francine on more than one occasion while working in the basement of the old wing, where the nurses' residence had been.

Mary, a Freeport nurse who declined to give her last name, says that until recently she had never "seen" Francine or witnessed any



Francine is said to haunt the old wing of Freeport Hospital which stands as a grand reminder of an era of dedicated health care professionals, a tradition continued today. (Photo by Nicole Bardeau)

**"I turned off a patient's television set and the second one in the room came on."**

— Mary

joking."

Jones maintains, however, she did witness Francine's presence. "Last year, Lisa Vollmar (director of human resources) and I were working in the administration building,

of her antics. "I was working my first night shift recently," she says. I turned off a patient's television and the second television in the room came on."

Mary, who usually works day

shifts, says reports from the night shifts can be interesting.

Cathy, a night shift nurse who also declined to give her last name, often makes up bundles of towels and bedding as part of her duties. She says, however, on occasion when she has gone to get them, the bundles have been moved. None of her colleagues will claim responsibility.

Others have told Mary of electric beds raising and lowering by themselves. The night nurses have also told her they won't answer patient bells alone.

During the time when Francine was the director of nursing at Freeport Sanatorium, fresh air was one of the treatments believed to help cure tuberculosis and windows

were often opened.

The windows in the patients' rooms are of the crank type and take effort to open, says Mary. However, Mary says, one evening, recently, "Sylvie (last name withheld by Mary) locked the windows in a room during a heavy rain storm, then left to attend to a patient. When she returned five minutes later the windows were wide open and the rain was pouring in."

Mary said, "The night shift report will sometimes say 'Francine had a busy night.'"

So who is "Francine"? Apparently no records can positively identify her. Her speculative past and history seems to add to her myth.

Though Francine is an interesting

topic of conversation, "she does not play a role in the hospital's current reputation," says Jones.

Freeport was built well away from residential Kitchener after the First World War. Its isolation as a self-supporting community adds mystery, romance and a sense of foreboding to the legend of Francine — the dedicated nurse whose sole purpose was to tend to the sick, her own comforts forgotten.

If Francine is roaming the corridors of Freeport Hospital, not everyone has experienced her. For those who haven't, the lights and the doors work fine. For those who have, electrical glitches are never just electrical glitches.

Or are they?

## Ghostly footsteps trouble tenants

By Patricia Bow

There must have been some noise, something to nudge the sleeper awake. But all around, the house stands dark and silent. The bedside clock says 4 a.m.

Then a woman's footsteps, light but distinct, come tapping along the hall. They pass the bedroom door and climb the stairs leading to the third floor. Midway up the stairs, they stop.

There is no point in calling out to ask who's there. There is never any answer. And a search of the stairs, as usual, will prove them deserted.

Roland Avenue is a street of large, well-kept Victorian houses looking out across the lake and lawns of Victoria Park.

A small bronze plaque on the front of number 23 indicates it has been designated under the Ontario Heritage Act.

Built in 1897 for paint manufacturer Karl Mueller, 23 Roland is "a unique example of the Queen Anne style in Kitchener," according to a report of the Local Architectural Conservation Advisory Committee.

It is a handsome and comfortable-looking house. A turret juts up at one corner; stained glass jewels the windows. A wide wrap-around verandah prompts a vision of afternoon tea, wicker chairs and ladies in white

summer dresses.

In fact, a photograph taken in 1907, now in the city archives, shows long-gowned ladies clustered on that same verandah.

Strangely, for such an attractive house, 23 Roland has seen many owners and tenants

come and go. For example, there have been five owners in the last ten years.

From 1974 to 1983 the owners were Judy Balmer, then a Kitchener alderman, and her husband Ken. During part of that time they rented the house to tenants.



23 Roland Ave. — where ghostly footsteps have been heard at night.

(Photo by Pat Bow)

According to a neighbor, Lorna Ferguson, on several occasions the tenants said they had heard a woman's footsteps walking along the upstairs hall, and climbing the stairs to the third floor. Typically the steps were heard late at night, and all the tenants would wake up at the same time, Ferguson says.

Balmer was not surprised by the stories, according to Ferguson, because apparently she had experienced the same thing about once a month over a period of years, when she was living in the house.

Laurie Lippert, another neighbor, often babysat Balmer's two children. Once, she said, while staying in the house overnight, she heard footsteps and climbed the stairs to investigate.

She recalls seeing "a person in a long white gown." At once she took the children and ran to her own home next door.

"No one ever felt threatened," says Ferguson. On the other hand, perhaps it was the "extra" tenant that felt threatened by the repairs Balmer had done before she sold the property. Perhaps 23 Roland no longer felt like home.

The present owners have been living in the house since 1992 and they say they have not experienced anything at all out of the ordinary.



# Some early folk medicine simply charming

Practices of turn-of-the-century healer Christian Eby offer faith for our times

By Caitlin Horrall

Herbs, prayers, chants, astrological charts, healing hands.

Sounds like the index of some '90s new age, how-to book.

But practices involving these things have been in the region since settlers planted the first herbs.

The practitioners were called faith-healers, charmers, medicine men and, in some case, witches. They were people who healed the sick through non-traditional means.

One of the better-known healers in the area was Christian Eby, grandson of Benjamin Eby, who in 1813 founded the First Mennonite Church in Waterloo County.

Christian Eby practised a combination of cures using herbs, books, charms and faith. He was known throughout North America as someone who cured where traditional doctors failed.

Much of what is known about Eby comes from students of folklore, such as Patricia McKegney, author of *Charm For Me Mr. Eby*. Eby's practice is also described in 224 letters he received from his patients between 1890-1920. The letters are from 78 cities and towns across the continent.

**Eby may have used the sixth and seventh books of Moses. In his copy, the pages are in red and are said to be written in blood.**

Eby practised "charming," a derivative of the native convention of "pow-wow." Charming was a combination of astrology, medicine, evangelism and education. It involved incantation and laying on of hands.

In some cases, Eby would get a letter from a sick person accompanied by a lock of hair, with the year, month, day and time of birth. From there, he went to a shed in his backyard and performed a secret charm. Often he synchronized his charming with the phases of the moon.

What is known about charming today is mostly speculation on the part of historians and students of folklore, because charmers kept their practices secret.

It is said charming could only be passed on to members of the opposite sex and only those who could stop the flow of blood were deemed suitable apprentices.

Sometimes charming was done

with the help of animals. For instance, Eby used guinea pigs to cure rheumatism. The patient was supposed to fondle the rodent to transfer the illness.

Charming also had a religious component. Many charmers saw themselves as vehicles for God and believed they had a "divine gift."

However, Ann Millar, family historian and Eby's granddaughter, is not so sure this theory applies to Eby. "My grandfather wouldn't have been that sophisticated," she says. He was just someone "trying to do something for his community."

In 1870, the area's population was 2,639 and growing quickly and there were few doctors. Non-traditional healers, such as Eby, filled a medical need, Millar says.

While Eby did not always claim to cure the sick, he was supposed to relieve pain.

He was also called to cure mental sickness and to find missing people. In one case, a charmer was said to have "cured" a thief by placing him under a spell with cabbages under his arms.

In a letter to Eby, a man asked for a charm to find his missing daughter. The girl was found in two days and the father wrote back and asked

"for an advice what to do with her when we get her."

Today, charming no longer exists, but forms of what Eby practised do.

Therapeutic touch is a "laying on of hands that everyone can do," says Susan Frid, a Waterloo TT practitioner and teacher. TT "uses hands as a focus to balance a person's energy field," Frid says.

While using hands to heal is common to TT and charming, the two are fundamentally different.

Rather than being a divine gift, Frid says, TT is a natural ability anyone can learn.

Today people turn to TT because of a change in attitude towards traditional medicine, says Carolyn Buchanan, another Waterloo TT practitioner. People are taking responsibility for their health care, she says.

Astrologer Rob Shaw agrees that medical science is losing popularity. In his article *The Aquarian Age*,

in *Healing Arts* magazine's 1994 premier issue, Shaw writes, "The explosion of alternative health therapies," says Shaw, "is partly a societal reaction to our dissatisfaction with the clinical and impersonal medical care available."

In an interview, Shaw said he has been studying astrology for 26 years and has been working professionally in the area for 15 years. He says he uses astrology in a way Eby might have, as a "diagnostic tool" which "shows where you may be vulnerable to illness." Like Eby, Shaw offers no cures but says he can tell, for instance, when is a good time to have surgery.

Shaw says charming was a practice that was "only as good as the knowledge of the time." "Charmer" was the best term to describe someone who was positively charged, he adds.

Shaw says he sees the success of charms explained as a state of mind. "If you believe you'll be helped by something, you will."

There is evidence that Eby also recited prayers and other incantations when charming. Millar says Eby sometimes repeated Psalms while charming. He may also have used the sixth and seventh books of Moses. The latter are supposed to record charms Moses used to bring plagues to Egypt. In Eby's copy, the pages are in red and are said to be written in blood.

The Church of Christ Scientist uses prayer to heal. "Healing is a major aspect of our religion compared to other Protestant religions," says Helen Hoerle, a member of the church and librarian at the Christian Science Reading Room in Waterloo.

The church relies on prayer for healing. Passages of the Bible are studied and repeated to "receive healing" from God.

At the failure of the individual to cure, a "Christian Science practitioner" is summoned to help the healing process. The practitioner for this area lives near Stratford.

Again, Hoerle cites lack of faith in traditional medicine as a reason for the popularity of "alternatives" to traditional medicine.

Institutional medicine gives a "verdict," she says. When there is no hope, Hoerle says, people turn to God to try to get hope back.

Eby also cured with herbs, a practice that, in its modern form, Richard De Sylva, consultant herbalist in Guelph, has spent 20 years studying.

Herbalism is the art and science of treating people with dried plants, De Sylva says. While it is mostly scientific, there is an intuitive aspect involved in discovering a person's real disturbance and in choosing the right herb for them, he says.

Society is showing a "return to things natural," says De Sylva. Complementary medicines are more popular now because people are tired of the "dead-endedness" of traditional medicine, he says, and while drugs may cure the original problem, often they only offer a new set of symptoms and effects.

De Sylva says Eby's use of herbs "runs tangent to herbalism today." However, he says, other activities of Eby's, such as chanting, are not characteristic of present herbalism.

Some people saw Eby as a witch. Both Benjamin Eby, Christian's

grandfather, and Gordon Eby, Christian's son, saw charming as "witchcraft," says Millar.

Today, Wiccans are being called "witches" by some. However, a Waterloo priestess, who has been openly practising Wicca for 10 years, says many Wiccans do not like to call themselves witches because of the word's negative connotations.

Dea did not want her real name used because, she says, she was driven from her previous home in

simple as "lord and lady hear my call, let this cold hit the wall," says Dea.

Dea also uses astrology, not for healing, but to do such things as make herbal or crystal preparations for healing. She says, for instance, some herbs are better picked when the planets are in a certain alignment, or crystals might be more effective if placed in spring water in the moonlight when the planets are in a certain plain.

Charming exists in Wicca, but not



Christian Eby stands with a dead raccoon. While there is no evidence to suggest he used raccoons to heal, he was known to use mice and guinea pigs. (Photo courtesy of Patricia)

## A touch of charm

The following, from a variety of sources, illustrate some of the more unusual folk medicine of the early Pennsylvania-Germans.

For children with bad tempers, pass them head first through their father's pant leg.

To prevent children's feet from growing together, turn them upside down and shake.

For warts, cut a potato in half, rub one half against the wart and bury the other half in your garden. As the potato rots, your warts should disappear.

To cure open sores, apply a mixture of whisky and white lilies directly to the sore.

To cure a headache, hang a dead chicken in your doorway. As the chicken hits your head when you walk through the doorway, your headache should disappear.

For general sickness, place a mouse in a maze. When the sun goes down, or if the mouse dies, you should be cured.

Kitchener, when neighbors discovered she was a Wiccan and teased her and her children.

Healing in Wicca involves energy working, says Dea. Illness is caused by a blockage in human energy, she says, so Wiccans try to manipulate the energy to restore health.

Healing may include candles, colors, health oils, herbs, crystals, spells and rituals to raise a person's energy, says Dea.

Wiccans are encouraged to try to heal themselves before going to a group healer, Dea says.

Some forms of healing call for spells, Dea says. These often rhyme and may come from books, the individual or other Wiccans, says Dea.

Dea says, she doesn't think casting spells on oneself works, but that some Wiccans might disagree.

Spells might be something as

in Eby's form, says Dea. Today, individuals might carry a bag of herbs (a charm), not so much to cure sickness, but more often to solve ailments in areas such as anxiety, gambling or love, says Dea.

Several present-day practitioners of complementary medicine use a form of what Eby practised. But in most cases, the technique has changed until it bears almost no resemblance to the one used by Eby. However, the popularity of the modern-day techniques indicates that institutionalized medicine is being questioned more. Perhaps Eby and his charms would still be popular, even in an era and area that are doctor-rich.

But some of Eby's practices have withstood time. Millar says the family still uses Eby's mixture of cooked onion and honey to cure the common cold.



# A telling cup: coffee grounds — or destiny?

By T. Antle Blackmore

There are no Tarot cards or a Ouija board at Fatima Sherifali's place. "They're evil," she says, simply.

There is, however, the rich scent of Turkish coffee, possibly mingling with a stew, cooking slowly on the stove.

In this homey atmosphere, in a modest apartment she shares with her daughter Hulya, Sherifali will read your coffee cup for \$10, your palm for \$5, or both for \$15.

There are those who say they leave Sherifali's feeling comforted, advised, mystified. Even some sceptics admit they are a little less sceptical.

"She's not a phoney," says Jacqueline, (who asked that her last name be withheld), a 32-year-old former nurse who is now studying to be a law clerk at George Brown College in Toronto. She visits Sherifali every year as a birthday present to herself, to have her coffee cup read.

Sherifali, who works full time at Huron Cable in Waterloo, has been reading palms and Turkish coffee cups for more than 20 years. Her guest book boasts return-customer signatures from the United States, Turkey, and across Canada. Sherifali's customers come from walks of life as varied as the coffee grounds in their cups.

Turkish coffee cup reading is popular in Turkey, Greece, Yugoslavia and other Middle Eastern countries.

In Sherifali's homeland of Cyprus, the café is "at the social centre of every village," according to Barnaby Rogerson.

Rogerson refers to the tradition of Turkish coffee cup reading in his book, *Cyprus*, which is essentially a guide for modern travellers. He says since 1974, Turkish coffee has "fallen victim to nationalism." In Southern Cyprus, he says, the coffee is now called Greek or Cypriot coffee, rather than Turkish coffee.

But no matter what it's called, the Turkish coffee grounds "can be inverted, by those with power, to reveal your inclinations and possible futures," says Rogerson.

Sherifali still practises Turkish coffee cup reading the way she learned it in Cyprus. She says her premonitions and strong intuitive feelings about people and events

began while she was living there. A neighbor, who noticed Sherifali's gift, offered to teach her the art of reading palms and Turkish coffee cups.

Literature on the subject, including a three-book series entitled, *Your Dreams Come True*, by Ruya Yorumlari, assist Sherifali in her work.

To prepare for a coffee cup reading, Sherifali heats the coffee and water in a pot with long, narrow handles, which is called cezve. In Greece, such specialized copper pots are called imbrikia.

The coffee is served without cream, and is as thick as maple sugar. It is black and bitter; to non-coffee drinkers it is most definitely an acquired taste. A couple of cubes

Unlike a Ouija board and Tarot cards, says Sherifali, the map of a person's palm, and the map a person's coffee grounds leave in the cup they drink from, are uninfluenced by external evils. Because they are created directly by the customer's spirit and circumstances, they do not rely on external spirits which may be sinister.

Others, however, would disagree with the exceptions Sherifali makes for her art, and would call all such rituals evil.

Janine Robson, 39, a Cambridge mother of three small children who dabbled in certain "occult" practices during her 20s, says a couple of weirdly accurate experiences, in which Robson predicted certain future events through the use of

interesting guests. Recently, she did a reading for a New York astrologer who advises Wall Street brokers. He had read about her in the newspaper.

Still, not all of Sherifali's news is good. She says seeing death, in the shape of a coffin, is the most depressing part of her job, and she will not deliver such bad news. She recounts an incident when she tried to read a client's cup three times, each time with new coffee, each time seeing the same coffin. Finally, Sherifali told the client she could not give her a reading that day. Days later, the client suffered the death of a parent.

Neither can Sherifali read her daughter Hulya's cup. "I am too close to her," she says.

In cups she is able to read, Sherifali sees jealousy in the form of eyes, worry in deep gutters, confusion in mazes. She sees important letters and numbers (unfortunately, not lottery numbers), and countless other pictures, such as lips which mean somebody is hugging or kissing the drinker, or love birds, which symbolize a rare love.

Mary Lynn, 21, a stay-at-home parent and Kitchener resident, says she visits Sherifali every few months and "more often during hard times." She says she goes "for entertainment, and to feel positive, because Sherifali is so nice and comforting."

Sometimes customers are moved to tears by the authenticity with which they feel Sherifali reads their cup.

As a person who has come through some difficult times, Sherifali is an example of both the difficulty and the importance of heeding one's intuition. Sherifali says had she listened to her intuition a few years ago, she could have avoided a devastating car crash which landed her in an intensive care unit for three weeks, followed by an additional two months in hospital.

After Sherifali left the hospital, she did coffee cup readings on a full-time basis, until she was able to go back to her regular job. She says the market is there if she again wanted, or needed, to elevate her moonlighting position into a full-time job.

It seems the market has been there for a long time. In his book, *Everyday Life in Ottoman Turkey*, Rapaela Lewis talks about the popularity of Turkish fortune tellers as far back at least as 1500s. Palm readers would cup "the palm of a young virgin boy" to hold "a pool of black ink into which a fortune teller would gaze raptly until,

-induced hypnotism, he began to speak in an unfamiliar voice, foretelling the future of the enquirer or describing occasions and events occurring at the moment miles away."

It seems people have always had an interest in knowing what the future holds. Maybe it has something to do with how exasperating the flawlessness of hindsight is.

Sherifali says many clients make real-life decisions according to what is in their cup or on their palm. She talks of a client who comes to see her every time she has an important business decision to make. "If it is in her cup to buy, she buys," says Sherifali.

Compared to other coffee-cup and palm readers who "ask too many questions to be credible" and who charge much more for just a palm reading than Sherifali's \$15 for both services, Jacqueline says, "you don't have to tell Fatima, she tells you; she's honest."

Sherifali appreciates the same kind of honesty in her customers. She says she is undaunted by the sceptics who come to her door, to prove to a friend that this sort of thing doesn't really work. To such disbelievers, Sherifali says "That's O.K.," with a smile. And then she reads for them.

Jacqueline says she has taken many disbelieving friends and family members to Sherifali, and to them she says, "after Fatima reads, you won't be sceptical anymore."

John, 49, also wanted his name withheld for this story. A first-time customer and self-described cynic, whose wife wanted him to see Sherifali, says, "She hit the nail on the head a few times."

John says he felt relieved about some of his troubles after his reading was completed.

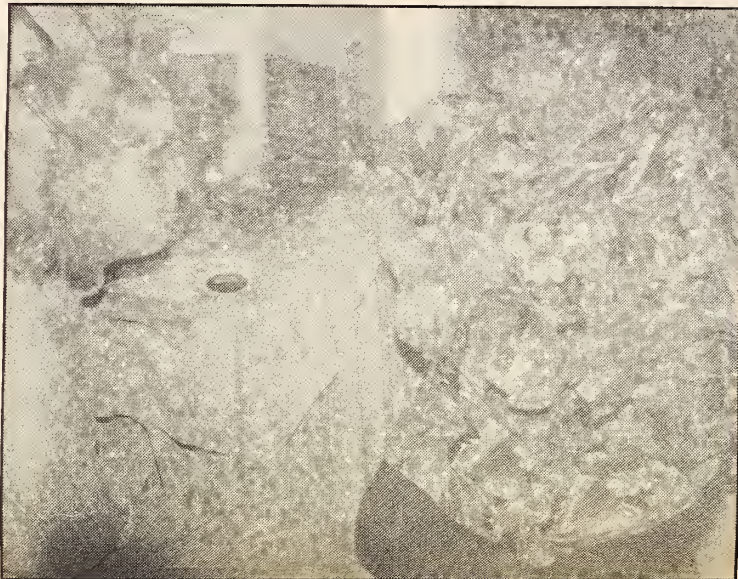
It seems people come to Sherifali for diverse reasons: some come for advice, others come to invalidate her art, still others come to please their wives.

"See, these are tears of happiness on the outside of your cup," Sherifali says, pointing to the coffee stains. There is kindness in her eyes as lingering as the potent coffee itself.

If life is a highway, few would argue that the road signs aren't always visible. Sherifali says she has merely channelled her intuitive gift to help others better read the road signs.

Does she worry about people altering their lives based on what she advises?

Not at all, she says, because in the end, "It's your decision to make."



Fatima points to jealous eyes in Mary Lynn's cup, and offers her some advice. (Photo by T. Antle Blackmore)

of sugar may be added if desired.

To those who have a difficult time swallowing the concoction,

Sherifali kindly suggests that a few sips from the miniature cup will do.

Next, she has the client invert the cup to allow the coffee to drain, leaving a maze of coffee grounds at the bottom of the cup. Sherifali then reads the coffee grounds.

A human palm, Sherifali explains, bears a map of the person's life. Similarly, once a person drinks the Turkish coffee, traces of the drinker's thoughts, spirit and feelings are retained in the grounds, as a type of genetic coding for the map of symbols left behind.

cards, unnerved her and caused her to abandon such means of knowing.

Although Robson has never been a client of Sherifali, she says the sheer accuracy of these types of readings is proof positive that there is a genuine power at work. She says the possibility of that power being evil cannot be ruled out.

Robson says Jesus tells us to turn to Him, not other humans, for answers. Robson says it is written in the Bible we should not "sit at a table with good and evil." She says palm, coffee cup, and Tarot card readers, as well as Ouija board players, are all doing just that.

Sherifali, a Muslim, says there is no conflict between the art she practises and the religion she practises. She says she believes in the power, the gift she has. She says it is a vehicle for accomplishing good, and that she feels "happy and stronger" when she is giving readings.

About bringing people into her home, she says she has never been afraid. Sherifali says, "I never get any strangers." — With having done thousands of readings, one can only wonder what exactly she means by this. Certainly, she says, her intuitive powers have shielded her.

Sherifali has made somewhat of a name for herself. She has received an invitation to talk on a California radio station, expenses paid, for one week, as a result of an article about her in the K-W Record two years ago. She says she feels too busy at home to accommodate these requests now.

So, customers come to her. Sherifali says she gets her share of

## Some literature available locally

### • Smith Books, Fairview Park mall:

- The New Palmistry, by Judith Hipskind, \$17.50
- Beyond Palmistry, by Beverly Jaegers, \$4.99
- Understanding Palmistry, by Mary Anderson, \$9.95

### • Coles, Fairview Park mall

- Understanding Palmistry, by Mary Anderson, \$9.95

### • Hollyoak, 24 Regina St. N., Waterloo

- a wide range of books on all facets of palmistry are available or can be ordered

### • Blue Leaf Book Shop, 93 King St. W., Kitchener

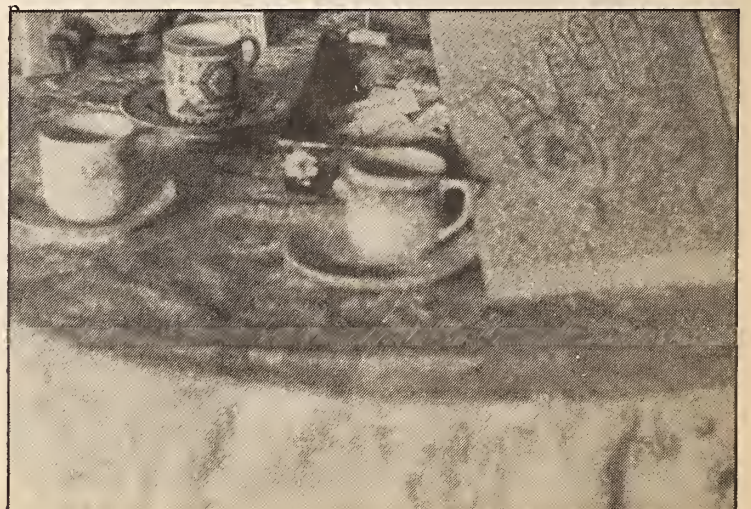
- carries a small selection of palmistry books

### • Provident Book Store and Words Worth Books

- do not carry palmistry books

None of these stores carries books on Turkish coffee-cup reading.

*Fatima Sherifali can be reached at 888-9309 until Feb. 1. After Feb. 1, she will be moving to Johnson Avenue in Kitchener.*



The tools of Sherifali's trade: miniature coffee cups, angel cards, and literature by Ruya Yorumlari. (Photo by T. Antle Blackmore)